

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3660  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2018**

**SCREENING TEST FOR STUDY IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES**

**3660. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR DIWAKER:  
SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR:  
SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:  
SHRI CHANDU LAL SAHU:**

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to amend Screening Test Regulations, 2002 and the Eligibility Requirement making it mandatory for Indian students to qualify National Eligibility-cum-entrance Test (NEET) to pursue medical course in foreign countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the number of students likely to be affected by the decision;
- (c) whether the Government has made any provision for the students who are already studying abroad and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether over the past many years the pass percentage of students appearing in Foreign Medical Graduate Exam (FMGE) is very low; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (c): As per section 13(4B) of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, Indian students desirous to get admission in a medical institute abroad have to obtain Eligibility Certificate from the MCI. Further, such persons who have obtained medical degree from an institution abroad and desirous to get permanent or provisional registration with MCI or State Medical Council have to qualify a Screening Test i.e. FMGE.

It has come to notice of the Ministry that medical institutions / Universities of foreign countries admit Indian students without proper assessment or screening of the students' academic ability to cope up with medical education which results that many students fail to qualify the Screening Test.

Accordingly, MCI with the prior approval of the Central Government has amended Screening Test Regulations, 2002 and the Eligibility Requirement for Taking Admission in an Undergraduate Medical Course in a Foreign Medical Institution Regulations, 2002 for making it mandatory for the Indian students to qualify National – Eligibility – cum – Entrance (NEET) to pursue foreign medical course. The result of NEET shall be deemed to be treated as the Eligibility Certificate for such persons, provided that such persons fulfill the eligibility criteria for admission to the MBBS course prescribed in the Regulations on Graduate Medical Education, 1997.

The provisions of the said regulations are being implemented prospectively i.e. May – 2018. Thus, the students who have already gone abroad to pursue primary medical course by taking Eligibility Certificate from MCI are exempted from qualifying NEET.

(d) & (e): As per the information provided by National Board of Examinations (NBE), the pass percentage in the FMGE in the last 10 sessions is as under: -

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Passing percentage</b>
1.	Mar – 13	29.15
2.	Sep – 13	16.65
3.	Jun – 14	4.93
4.	Dec – 14	20.00
5.	Jun – 15	10.40
6.	Dec – 15	12.20
7.	Jun – 16	11.22
8.	Dec – 16	8.08
9.	Jun – 17	7.41
10.	Dec – 17	13.89