

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 765
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH DECEMBER, 2018**

STREAMLINING NEET ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

765. SHRI J.J.T. NATTERJEE:

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

- (a) whether NEET has achieved the target of regulating medical education in medical colleges and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government has taken note of the demands from various quarters to streamline NEET entrance test, if so, the details thereof and necessary steps taken in this regards;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to further bring down the cut-off percentile of NEET from the coming academic year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b): The Central Government amended the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 and the Dentists Act, 1948 in the year 2016 to provide for a common entrance examination i.e. National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) from the academic year 2016-17. Such an exam will also lead to better and uniform standards of medical education, save students from appearing in multiple exams conducted by various admission authorities and mitigate litigation in various courts of law with respect to the examination process.

Further, amendments have also been carried out in the regulations of MCI to make the provisions of common counseling wherein the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and the authorities of the State Governments have been designated for conducting common counselling for their respective quota seats in all Under Graduate/Post Graduate /Super – specialty courses.

Common Counselling is a logical corollary to a common exam (NEET). It eliminates any scope for malpractices in the admission process and ensures admissions to medical colleges in a transparent manner and the students are not required to apply to individual colleges, thus saving money and opening greater choice of colleges to them.

(c) & (d): The regulations on Graduate Medical Education and Post Graduate Medical Education have the provisions for lowering the cut-off percentile in the case when sufficient number of candidates belonging to respective categories fail to secure minimum marks as prescribed in NEET in any academic year and the marks so lowered shall be applicable for the said year only.