

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 797
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH DECEMBER, 2018**

NOMENCLATURE BY MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

797. DR. TAPAS MANDAL:

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

- (a) whether the persons holding B.A.M.S., B.H.M.S., B.U.M.S., B.S.M.S., B.D.S., B.Y.N.S. and MBBS degrees are allowed to prefix 'Dr.' before their name;
- (b) if so, the details of specific provisions in this regard; and
- (c) the manner in which a common man can distinguish/identify the physicians/ surgeons from different systems of medicine *i.e.*, allopathy and AYUSH systems?

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

(a) & (b): Yes. The Central Government had constituted a 'Standing Committee of Experts' under the Chairmanship of Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research to consider & give its recommendations to the Government on the efficacy / merits of various streams of alternative medicine. The Committee had made various recommendations on the subject given to it and also suggested that the term 'Doctor' should be used only by practitioners of system of medicine recognized by the Government of India. The recommendations were accepted by the Government and an Executive Order in this regard was issued on 25th November, 2003.

(c): The Clause 1.4.2 of the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 which is applicable for the medical practitioners provides that the Physicians shall display as suffix to their names only recognized medical degrees or such certificates / diplomas and membership / honours which confer professional knowledge or recognizes any exemplary qualification / achievements. Similar provisions are also available under the Revised Dentists (Code of Ethics) Regulations, 2014 applicable for the Dentists.