

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1599
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH FEBRUARY, 2023**

STUDENTS PURSUING MEDICAL EDUCATION ABROAD

**1599. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:
SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAOGAWALI:**

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

- (a) the number of students pursuing undergraduate and postgraduate medical courses abroad during the last ten years, country-wise, yearwise and State/UT to which they belong to;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the safety of such students studying abroad;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to transfer or provide lateral entry to the students studying in war torn countries in the Indian medical institutions and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has any data regarding number of Ukraine-returnee students got admissions under the 'Academic-Mobility-Programme' and 'Academic-Transfer-Programme' in different Universities in Europe and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of difference between Academic Mobility-Programme and Academic-Transfer Programme;
- (f) whether the Government is aware that the banks are declining the requests for educational loan under Academic-Transfer-Programme; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE**

(DR BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) to (g): As informed by Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), there are approximately 1.2 million Indian students studying abroad including all streams of education. However, specific data of Indian students pursuing medical courses abroad is not available. Further, as informed by Bureau of Immigration, the number of Indian students who went abroad for study/ education in various streams from 2017 to 2022 is as under:-

| Year | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Number | 4,54,010 | 5,18,015 | 5,86,337 | 2,59,655 | 4,44,553 | 7,50,365 |

The Indian Mission in various countries are in regular contact with relevant authorities including various ministries, local administration, universities/ institutes for ensuring the safety of the students.

Foreign Medical Students/Graduates are either covered under “Screening Test Regulations, 2002” or “Foreign Medical Graduate Licentiate Regulations, 2021”. There are no such provisions in the Indian Medical Council Act 1956 & the National Medical Commission Act, 2019 as well as the Regulations to accommodate or transfer medical students from any foreign medical institutes to Indian medical colleges. No permission has been given by the NMC to transfer or accommodate any foreign medical students in any Indian medical institute/university.

The National Medical Commission (NMC) has devised a scheme under which Indian students who were in the last year of their undergraduate medicine course (due to COVID-19, Russia-Ukraine conflict etc had to leave their foreign medical institute) and have subsequently completed their studies as also have been granted certificate of completion of course/degree by the respective institute, on or before 30th June, 2022, are permitted to appear in Foreign Medical Graduate Examination. Thereafter, upon qualifying the FMG examination, such foreign medical graduates are required to undergo Compulsory Rotating Medical Internship (CRMI) for a period of two years to make up for the clinical training which could not be physically attended by them during the undergraduate medicine course in the foreign institute as also to familiarize them with practice of medicine under Indian conditions. Foreign medical graduates get registration only after completing the CRMI of two years.

As per information received from MEA, the Indian Embassy in Kyiv has communicated with all the concerned Universities in Ukraine for providing transcript and other documents in a smooth manner to the students. The details are available on the website of Embassy to assist students to address any related issues.

The NMC has issued Public Notices conveying its No-objection to the Academic Mobility Program offered by Ukraine i.e. temporary relocation (for the period of conflict) to other universities applicable in either of 29 countries as mentioned in the Public Notice. As informed by MEA, a total of 3,964 Indian medical students have got admissions under Academic Transfer Programme. Further, around 170 students have enrolled themselves under Academic Mobility Program. Academic Mobility Programme is a temporary relocation to other universities in different countries whereas Academic Transfer Programme is a permanent shifting to a new medical college in the same country or a different country altogether.

As informed by Department of Financial Services (DFS), there is no case of denial of request for educational loan under Academic Transfer Programme or Academic Mobility Program.
