

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4142
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13TH DECEMBER, 2019**

IFM PRACTITIONERS

4142. SHRI DEVUSINH JESINGHBHAI CHAUHAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there are about 8 lakh Institute for Functional Medicine (IFM) registered practitioners in India, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether in the prevailing acts there is provision of allowing IFM registered practitioners to practice modern/allopathic medicine, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the proposed amendments in draft Bill connected with IFM will prohibit practice of modern/allopathic medicines by IFM registered practitioners, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has received suggestions from people's representatives regarding inclusion of IFM practitioners in the proposed Bill, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government will take the views of various State Governments and people's representative/experts in this regard before taking any final decision to include IFM practitioners to practice modern/allopathic medicines; and
- (f) the Government's view in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a): Medical Council of India (MCI) maintains a register of medical practitioners known as the Indian Medical Register containing the names of all persons who are for the time being enrolled on any State Medical Register and possess any of the recognised medical qualifications to practice medicine. MCI informed that there are a total 11,59,309 allopathic doctors registered with the State Medical Councils/Medical Council of India as on 31st March, 2019. However, it has no information with regard to Institute for Functional Medicine (IFM) registered practitioners.

(b): Only the medical practitioners registered with the State Medical Council or the Medical Council of India can practice allopathic medicine in terms of section 15 of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956.

(c) to (f): No such Bill is pending with the Government.

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