

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3430
TO BE ANSWERED ON 8TH AUGUST, 2025**

SURRENDER OF SUPER SPECIALITY SEATS IN TAMIL NADU

3430. SMT. KANIMOZHI KARUNANIDHI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that 145 of the 215 super speciality seats reserved for in-service candidates under the Tamil Nadu State quota were prematurely surrendered to the All India Quota (AIQ) without conducting the mandatory second round of State counselling and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for not approving or notifying the Round 2 counselling schedule for Tamil Nadu despite timely requests from the State Government;
- (c) whether this action is in violation of the Supreme Court's directions regarding the 50% reservation for in-service doctors in super speciality courses and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is likely to consider restoring the surrendered seats and allow Round 2 counselling in Tamil Nadu; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to avoid such procedural lapses in future and ensure fair and consistent implementation of the Super Speciality counselling process across all States?

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

(a) to (e): The Medical Counselling Committee (MCC) of Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) has been entrusted with the responsibility to conduct counselling for 100% seats of Super Specialty (SS) courses across the country.

In accordance with the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated 16th March 2022 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 53 of 2022 titled as *N. Karthikeyan & Ors. vs. State of Tamil Nadu & Ors.*, a 50% reservation for in-service candidates has been granted in the state of Tamil Nadu. The State Selection Committee (SSC) of Tamil Nadu is responsible for conducting counselling for these reserved seats.

Counselling for All India Quota (AIQ) seats by MCC and in-service seats by the SSC, Tamil Nadu is carried out in tandem, with each round of All India counselling immediately followed by the respective round of in-service counselling.

During SS Counselling 2024, after the completion of Round-1 of in-service counselling, the SSC, Tamil Nadu surrendered the unfilled in-service seats to MCC. These seats were merged into the AIQ seat matrix for Round-2. After completion of Round-2 of All India counselling, the remaining in-service seats were returned to the State to proceed with Round-2 of in-service counselling. Further, data of candidates made eligible after percentile reduction was also forwarded to the State for conducting stray round of in-service seats.
