

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 936
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24TH JULY, 2026**

**GUIDELINES FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL AND SOCIAL MEDIA
INFLUENCERS**

936. SHRI BASTIPATI NAGARAJU:

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

- (a) whether there are any guidelines or regulations governing healthcare professionals and social media influencers providing medical advice through social media platforms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the regulatory body responsible for enforcement and the penalties prescribed for violation;
- (c) whether those guidelines cover unqualified individuals posing as health experts, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has taken note of the growing menace of fake or unverified medical advice being circulated on social media by unqualified individuals and if so, the details of complaints registered along with the action taken during the last five years in this regard, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to formulate a comprehensive framework in this regard and if so, the details and timeline thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)**

- (a) to (e): Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002, regulate the professional conduct and medical ethics of the Registered Medical Practitioners (RMPs), irrespective of the platform/forum.

The said Regulations, inter alia, prescribe standards relating to the professional conduct of RMPs, maintenance of the dignity and honor of the medical profession, delivery of quality patient care, observance of confidentiality and professional discretion, prohibition of self-advertisement and direct or indirect solicitation of patients as well as appropriate authority to act upon instances of professional misconduct etc.

Further, the Telemedicine Practice Guidelines vide Notification No. MCI-211(2)/2019(Ethics)/100659 dated 12.05.2020, govern the practice of Telemedicine and the provision of Teleconsultation services by Registered Medical Practitioners.
