

No. V. 11025/12/2004-ME(P-I)(Pt.)
Government of India
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
(Department of Health)

Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi.
Dated the 4th January, 2006.

To

The Secretary,
Medical Council of India,
Kotla Road, New Delhi.

Sub:- Conducting of DNB courses at medical colleges/institutions – Regarding

Sir,

I am directed to say that this Ministry vide letter of even number dated 17th August, 2004 communicated its decision that the medical institutions in the country running post-graduate/super-speciality courses permitted /recognized as per MCI norms, are permitted to run DNB programmes provided they have additional faculty to train DNB candidates. The position was also reiterated vide letter dated 19th September, 2005 addressed to various Health/Medical Education Secretaries of all the States/UTs to admit DNB trainees in various PG/super-speciality courses provided they have additional faculty since it was brought to our notice that the medical colleges are not being able to start the DNB courses even though they had additional faculty. This was primarily with a view to ensuring optimal utilization of manpower and the clinical load, which is available in various medical colleges for production of quality manpower. This letter was based on MCI's stand in the matter as contained in their letter no. 22(1)/96-Med/14368 dated 17.9.1996 that it would not have any objection in introducing DNB courses in medical institutions in the concerned departments provided the PG teachers of the respective departments admitting students under them for MD/MS/DM/M.Ch. courses may not register students under them for DNB courses simultaneously.

It has now been brought to our notice that the MCI vide their letter dated 11.11.2005 addressed to various Universities, Directors of Medical Education of all State Governments/UTs, Secretaries of Health/Medical Education Departments of all the States etc., interalia, informing them that it may be made sure by them not to conduct DNB and other parallel courses i.e. CPS etc. in any subject along with MD/MS/DM/M.Ch./PG Diploma courses wherever the institutions have been permitted/recognized to conduct MD/MS/DM/M.Ch. and PG diploma courses. It has also been stated therein that the decision has been taken by the PG Committee and the same has been communicated to all concerned. This is contrary to the stand taken by this Ministry in this regard. In this connection, it is also to be stated that any decision taken by the PG Committee of MCI, including those with regard to the policies, is only recommendatory in nature and requires the approval of the Council and the Government. In the present case, if the PG Committee/the Council considered that the

earlier policy of allowing DNB courses to be run parallel to MD/MS etc. in medical colleges requires any change, the Council should have sent such proposal along with reasons for the proposed change of their stand to the Government for its consideration particularly when the Central Government have issued instructions to all concerned allowing conduct of DNB courses along with MD/MS etc. subject to availability of additional faculty. It is pertinent to point out that the copy of the instructions of the Central Government dated 19.9.2005 was also specifically endorsed to the Acting President of MCI for their information. Accordingly, MCI may send the recommendation of the PG Committee along with detailed reasons for change of their earlier stand in regard to allowing DNB courses to be run in medical colleges along with MD/MS/DM/M.Ch./PG Diploma courses against excess faculty to the Government for consideration.

Issue of this communication dated 11.11.2005 by the MCI directly to various agencies including State Governments contrary to the instructions issued by the Central Government based on the MCI's earlier stand on the matter is not only not appropriate but has also created confusion in various institutions/State Governments. Till such time as the Government takes a final decision on the PG Committee recommendations, the Government instructions as contained in letter dated 19th September, 2005 will remain in force. A copy of this letter is being sent to all concerned.



(K.V.S. Rao)

Under Secretary to the Government of India.
Tel. No. 23061883

Copy to:-

1. The Executive Director, National Board of Examinations, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi-29.
2. The Registrars of all the Universities in India.
3. The Principals/Deans of all the Medical Colleges, including Postgraduate Institutions in India.
4. The Director, Health & Medical Services/Education of all the State Governments including Union Territories.
5. The Secretaries, Health Departments of all the State Governments- With the request to please suitably inform all concerned.
6. The Secretary, Union Public Service Commission, Dholpur House, New Delhi.
7. The Director General of Health Services, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.
8. The Director General of Armed Forces Medical Services, Ministry of Defence, L - Block, New Delhi.



(K.V.S. Rao)

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