

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 208  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023**

**PROTEST AGAINST NEXT EXAMINATIONS**

**208 SHRI VAIKO:**

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that there are protests against the holding of National Exit Test (NExT) in Tamil Nadu and the Tamil Nadu medical students association demanded for withdrawal of NExT;
- (b) if so, the response of Government thereto;
- (c) whether it is based on multiple choice question pattern and nothing to do with clinical knowledge;
- (d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;
- (e) whether wider consultations will be held with all the stakeholders including State Governments before conducting the NExT examinations; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
(DR MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)**

- (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 208 \* FOR 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023**

(a) to (f): The National Medical Commission (NMC) notified the NExT Regulations, 2023 on 27.06.2023. The Regulations was prepared after taking into consideration the large number (nearly 6500) of comments received during the consultation process. The draft regulations was discussed and approved in the meeting of the NMC where Universities and State Medical Councils are also represented.

There were apprehensions raised by students including those in Tamil Nadu which were taken into consideration and the NExT has been deferred vide Public Notice dated 13.07.2023.

NExT will be a comprehensive computer-based examination based on high-quality multiple-choice questions (MCQ) focused on addressing higher domains of knowledge aligned to competencies expected of a medical graduate practicing modern system of medicine.

The National Exit Test (NExT) is the basis of:-

- (i) Certifying the eligibility of the medical graduate to register to practice the modern system of medicine in India and therefore serve as a Licentiate Examination.
- (ii) Determining the eligibility and ranking for the purpose of admission of those desirous of pursuing further Postgraduate Medical Education in the country in broad medical specialities and therefore serve as an entrance Examination for admission to courses of Postgraduate Medical Education, including for admission of foreign medical graduates.

\*\*\*\*\*