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Respected Shri Narendra Modi Ji
Honb'le Prime Minister of India

Congratulations

You are biggest contender for the Noble Peace Prize around the globe; yes sir, you are going to get the Noble Peace Prize soon.

We are blessed to have you as our Prime Minister.

Big news just a few days before "Nav Varsh" - Navreh as we Kashmiri's call it and all Indians are going to celebrate it on 22.03.2023.

May the Lord's blessings be kind and generous to you today and forever. May HE the Almighty God bless you with good health and a smile on your face.

Regards,

Ravi Kumar Koul
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15.03.2023

To

Respected Shri Narendra Modi Ji,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India,
152, South Block,
Raisina Hill,
New Delhi-110011

Sub: - Medical Education Abroad Continued
Ref: - Continued from my previous letters

Respected Sir,

I am extremely very sorry that I have been writing to you every now and then; but for me after Bhagavaan Gopinath Ji Maharaj of Kashmir; Respected Sir, you are the only hope for me and my country. So will continue writing to you for India as long as I am alive.

To get the actual interpretation of various sections of FMGL-2021, I tried to reach the National Medical Commission through RTI, Emails, letters sent directly as well indirectly through the office of the Hon'ble Prime Minister & the office of The Minister of Health and Family Welfare, but with no reply to my queries as the actual interpretation of various sections of the **NMC Gazette Notification - Foreign Medical Graduate Licentiate Regulations 2021 No. UGMEB/NMC/Rules & Regulations/2021 dated 18/11/2021.**

I did not stop here for the reply from the National Medical Commission but continued with my efforts and decided to find the status of medical education abroad so wrote to many Indian Embassies and thanks to various Indian Missions for their prompt response and many of them put details in the form of advisories on Embassy websites for Indian students wishing to pursue Medical Education in those countries.

I am attaching many such responses as annexure for your perusal with description in brief below about the advisory or email with the hope that the **National Medical Commission** will check the details as received from various Indian Embassies or Indian High Commissions abroad and verify the same for the benefit of Indian Students and India.

After verification of the details the National Medical Commission may please post the relevant details on the website of the National Medical Commission

for support and guidance of the aspiring Indian Medical Students seeking admission in Abroad.

Respected Sir, as on date there is no authentic source of information available for Indian students that they could trust for the safety & security of their education and career; these students and their families are **solely dependent on the details given by the Indian Medical Education Consultants (AGENTS)** but they need authentic guidance from the **National Medical Commission**.

Previously to some extent the Medical Council of India was better if compared with the National Medical Commission of today while thinking about information exchange with students.

On every working day students could visit the office of Medical Council of India during a stipulated time, meet the concerned officer to get the correct information about Indian as well as Foreign Medical Education.

- ❖ There used to be at least a list of medical institutions abroad where students used to check the name of the university and the country from the list before seeking admission with the hope that since the particular institution is listed meant degree of that listed institution is recognized for licensing in India.
- ❖ **What is the status today?** There is no list and the medical education consultants (AGENTS) use their marketing skills to grab the students for the destination of their choice to make money.

Right from the day the National Medical Commission announced the removal of list from the website **a large number of New Foreign Institutions (Government or Private, Medical or Non Medical)** have been **launched as medical institutions** for Indian students to earn more & more students.

- ❖ **Despite the absence of this list** aspiring medical students still continue going abroad for medical education thereby spending huge parent's hard earned money.
- ❖ Students will spend 5/ 6 /7 or more years for their studies before they will come back to India.
- ❖ **After returning to India** the student will approach the relevant agencies for FMGE or NEXT examination & for license as medical practitioner to NMC, but he or she may face:-
 - ✓ Rejection of degrees as may not be following the FMGL 2021.
(Students need to be educated about the repercussions of such institutions, countries or degrees before seeking admissions and not after returning with such degrees).
 - ✓ Else it will cause their economically poor parents huge loss money and precious time of 5/ 6/ 7 or more years of career for students.

To save these aspirants from such a situation, I request the National Medical Commission, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare; Indian Missions abroad together to educate these students about

- ❖ Which **country** Indian students can go?
- ❖ Which **institution** Indian students can go?

That will save our country from a bigger disaster in making by these agents.

- ❖ Unfortunately there is no available Indian official or reliable source from where they can get proper information & guidance to fulfill their dream.
- ❖ These students need proper guidance from some one to tell them what is good or bad for their future and there is **nothing better than the Government of our own country through National Medical Commission to trust with.**
- ❖ These students can be better quality doctors if guided to a proper place and the institution.
- ❖ **Listing of selected Government Medical Institutions** having fully English as Medium of instruction will be a better step to save students from being misled by the Education Consultants.

ANNEXURE - Page 01 to 13; the Embassy of India for Georgia in Yerevan,

Kindly find attached the copy of the advisory dated **15 September 2022** (See Page 01 to 02) from Embassy of India for Georgia in Yerevan for Indian students seeking admission in Georgia.

AND

Also find attached copy of **Revised advisory dated 29 September 2022** (See Page 03 to 05) from the Embassy of India for Georgia in Yerevan for Indian students seeking admission in medical studies in Georgia

Practically nothing has changed between the two advisories from the Embassy of India for Georgia in Yerevan **but the language to help the Education Consultants.**

However along with the advisory we need to understand the Law of Georgia on Medical Practice as has been mentioned in the said advisory -

Article 5 - Law of Georgia on Medical Practice (See page 06 to 08)

Article 14 - Law of Georgia on Medical Practice (See page 06 to 08)

Article 17, Law of Georgia on Medical Practice (See page 06 to 08)

<https://www.matsne.gov.ge/en/document/download/15334/14/en/pdf>

The Law of Georgia on Medical Practice speaks that a **Junior doctor** (a doctor with a degree or a diploma of 6 years course) is not allowed to practice medicine as an independent doctor (See page 07, Article 5 point m) but is only allowed to assist under the guidance of an independent medical practitioner. **Junior doctors shall**

have no right to independent medical practice in Georgia (See page 02 Answer V) – say various articles of Law of Georgia on Medical Practice.

I want The National Medical Commission study the enclosures and tell the aspiring doctors whether doctors with 5 or 6 years diploma's from Georgia will be allowed to practice as independent doctors in India or not.

Kindly also go through the See Pages 09 to 13 too to understand little more about the medical education in Georgia.

ANNEXURE - Page 14 to 55; the Embassy of the Republic of India in Minsk, Belarus

Four letters as received were forwarded to me through an email by the Embassy of the Republic of India in Minsk, Belarus.

1. The Ministry of Health of Republic of Belarus - (See Pages 14 to 15 and 50 to 55)
2. Belarusian State Medical University - (See Pages 16 to 27)
3. Vitebsk State Medical University - (See Pages 28 to 35)
4. Gomel State Medical University - (See Pages 36 to 43)

The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Belarus from the Embassy of India in Minsk, Belarus (See Pages 14 to 15 and 50 to 55) in its letter is stating that students after completion of 6 years of Undergraduate MD Physician Course have to undergo Postgraduate clinical residency training during which students can appear for qualification internship examination. After passing this exam students get the right to practice in Belarus.

The letters from various universities in Belarus sent by the Embassy of India in Minsk, Belarus (See Pages 16 to 43) is giving different version as compared to the letter from the Ministry of Health of Republic of Belarus; those say they do not need any examination etc to qualify as medical practitioner.

Question was asked to the Embassy of India in Minsk, Belarus to verify the facts that which of the letters can be considered as legally correct, but no response received till date. **Question now is while the Embassy of India in Belarus could not find the correct reply from Government there, how students can find it.**

Please find attached the copy of RTI replies and emails received from the Embassy of India in Minsk, Belarus (See Pages 45 to 55).

ANNEXURE - Page 56 to 63; the Embassy of India in Moscow

Attached are a few replies to RTI replies (See Page 56 to 63) issued by the Embassy of India in Moscow.

Answers are mixed in nature; the Embassy of India in Moscow could not differentiate between clinical rotation, Clerkship; Practical Training and internship.

Their replies to various RTI stated that the 6 years course of MD Physician (equivalent to MBBS in India) includes clinical rotation, Clerkship; Practical Training and internship. When question was asked to confirm things, they asked to write to NMC.

Now the question arises; Till June 2022 (even after the FMGL – 2021) students came from Russia with degrees/ diploma of 6 years Duration BUT without any Internship. How come the internship is going to be included in same 6 years course for fresh students joining the course after the FMGL – 2021? **CLEAR ANSWER IS REQUIRED.**

ANNEXURE - Page 64 to 67; the Embassy of India in Kazakhstan

This is the information issued by the Embassy of Indian in Kazakhstan for Indian students studying / willing to study in Kazakhstan (See Page 64 to 67) <https://www.indembastana.gov.in/page/education-in-kazakhstan/>

- The term of study in the specialties of "General Medicine", "Dentistry" and "Pediatrics" - 5 years
- After completing their education, Indian students are eligible to appear in the examination conducted in three languages (Kazakh, Russian & English) by the National Centre of Independent Testing for getting licence to practice as a doctor in Kazakhstan like other Kazakh students. Practicing/working in Kazakhstan is subject to the labor and immigration laws of Kazakhstan.

Like Egypt, Kazakhstan too says 5 years + 2 years; BUT Indian Consultants working for Kazakhstan are claiming it to be 5+1 years only in Kazakhstan.

Question is very simple when globally degree of Kazakhstan is accepted as 7 year program by ECFMG even local students can practice after 7 years then how come there is a provision of a tailor made program of 5+1 years for Indian students.

Is this done to alter the duration of program to attract large number of students OR there is a specific provision in the Law of Kazakhstan to maintain parallel education systems.

Will this program of 5+1 years for Indian students be recognized by the National Medical Commission for licensing in India is a big question to be answered?

ANNEXURE - Page 68 to 73; the Embassy of India, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Thanks to the Embassy for Advisory No. 2 (See Page 71 to 73) - Dated 30th November, 2022 for Indian Students Seeking Admission in Medical Courses in Tajikistan <https://www.eoidushanbe.gov.in/page/for-indian-students/>

First question arises as to why the first advisory (See Page 68 to 70) dated 12 October 2022 has been removed by the Embassy; though that should have been kept there for records?

Many questions arise on the Advisory No. 2 - Dated 30th November, 2022 as posted by the embassy on its website; stating as **Response received from the Rector, Avicenna Tajik State Medical University:**

Here are the point wise questions those came up on the advisory -

Answer No. 2 in the advisory - Currently, the duration of the MBBS program, designed specifically for citizens of the Republic of India, is 5 years, and the duration of the MD program is 6 years.

Answer No. 15 in the advisory - The duration of the MD curriculum for local students is 5-6 years. It should be noted that the MBBS/MD program for 5 years is provided only for citizens of the Republic of India.

QUESTION ON ANSWER 2 & 15 - Why is the course of 5 years for Indians only, is it going to be recognized by NMC while as it is 6 years for rest of the world in same institution.

NMC says - Degree & registration to practice must be same for the local & Indian students is primary requirement of NMC?

Answer No. 3 in the advisory - The study programs (MBBS / MD) of the Tajik Avicenna Medical University meet all the requirements and norms of the Indian National Medical Council and the University is included in the list of universities of foreign countries recognized by the Indian National Medical Council.

QUESTION ON ANSWER 3 - Where is it listed in NMC as is claimed in the reply?

Answer No. 5 in the advisory - Indian students do internships depending on the course - in Nursing Assistant in the second year, nursing in the third year and Physician Assistant in the fourth year.

QUESTION ON ANSWER 5 - Kindly confirm if such type of integrated internship will be accepted as recognized in India for licensing as medical practitioners?

Also if integrated internship of 12 months is included in the course means the basic degree is for (5 years) 60 months - 12 months = 48 months only; while as minimum duration of course required for licensing in India is 54 months.

A detailed clarification if such course as detailed in advisory be recognized by the National Medical Commission for licensing in India is a big question to be answered?

ANNEXURE - Page 74 to 77; the Embassy of India in Uzbekistan

Advisory for Indian students desirous of pursuing Medicine Course in the Republic of Uzbekistan Tashkent 01.12.2022 **Embassy of India in Tashkent Republic of Uzbekistan** (See Page 74) says - Hence, as on date, the 5-year MBBS educational program required by India is not included in the classification of higher medical education.

Once the 5-year MBBS educational program is included in the classification of higher medical education of the Republic of Uzbekistan, all Indian students will be invited to study under this program.

Question on advisory from Embassy of India in Tashkent, Uzbekistan - Difficult to understand why Indian Embassies are discussing the 5 year or 6 year course and trying to reduce the course of 6 years to 54 months (citing the requirement of NMC) in the countries where it is traditionally being taught for 6 years duration for all.

ANNEXURE - Page 78 to 80; the Embassy of India in Mauritius

An Indian citizen can **NOT** sit for a licensing exam in Mauritius directly, that is available only for Mauritian citizens (See Page 78).

An Indian citizen, if he wishes to practice medicine in Mauritius, has to get registered license with the Medical council of India first and then come back to Mauritius after obtaining a work permit (job offer) from Mauritius.

ANNEXURE - Page 81 to 82; the High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Kindly read a reply to RTI reply from the High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia says in reply at 2. 6) that the Government of Malaysia does not allow foreign students to carry out their housemanship / internship training or to be employed in their country, but education consultants are sending students to Malaysia.

Here is the need to tell the students as to what will happen to their future after completion of degree from Malaysia.

This is the reply to a RTI Application issued by the Embassy of Indian in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

ANNEXURE - Page 83 to 84; Letter from the Bangladesh Medical & Dental Council

Does these two letter (issued in a fortnight) from the Bangladesh Medical & Dental Council satisfy all the requirements as per the **NMC Gazette Notification**, - NMC Foreign Medical Graduate Licentiate Regulations 2021, No. UGMEB/NMC/Rules & Regulations/2021 dated 18/11/2021 or NOT.

ANNEXURE - Page 85 to 89; the Embassy of India in Hanoi, Vietnam

A reply to my RTI (See page 85) with a link that will give details of medical education in Vietnam and an email reply to my questions (See page 86 to 89) needs further research to make it easy to understand.

However a call received from the Embassy of India in Hanoi, Vietnam in response to my email said that the quality & medium of instruction in Vietnam is not good for our students.

ANNEXURE - Page 90; the Embassy of India in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Unfortunately the Embassy of India in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan did not respond with any details but asked to contact institutions directly.

However a letter (See Page 90) available through social media is attached.

ANNEXURE - Page 91 to 92; the Embassy of India in Budapest Hungary for Bosnia & Herzegovina

Email reply (See Page 91) from the Embassy of India in Budapest Hungary for Bosnia & Herzegovina did not seem to in praise for medical education in Bosnia.

ANNEXURE - Page 93 to 94; the Embassy of India in Germany

A reply from the Embassy of India in Germany to my questions (See Page 93 to 94) one of the leading countries in the field of medical education.

What happens in such developed countries where quality Medical Education is not taught in English but in their local language?

ANNEXURE - Page 95 to 96; the Embassy of India, Cairo, Egypt

This is a reply to my email from the **Embassy of India Cairo, Egypt** and it has answers to questions raised.

1. Duration of MBBS in Egypt for both local students & foreign students is 5 years plus 02 years of Internship and has to pass an exam organized by Egyptian Medical Syndicate.
2. there is an exam for procuring the required license for practice and the exam is in Arabic and English languages

ANNEXURE - Page 97 to 103; the Embassy of India in Philippines

A RTI Reply (See Page 97).

An advisory issued in the shape of FAQ's for Indian students wishing to pursue Medical Education in the Philippines posted at (See Page 98 to 101)
http://www.indembassymanila.in/announcements_detail.php?newsid=13

This is Letter from (CHED) - Commission on Higher Education (See Page 102 -103 as available on social media).

ANNEXURE - Page 104 to 112; the Embassy of India in P R China

A nice and straight advisory from the Embassy of India in P R China (See Page 104 to 110)

Relevant instructions on the internship of MBBS and BDS in 2023 in P R China (See Page 111 to 112)

**ABOUT PRACTICAL TRAINING / CLINICAL ROTATION/ CLERKSHIP / INTERNSHIP
IN CIS COUNTRIES**

The problem is same in all countries - Russia, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan etc. where the practical training/ Clinical Rotation/ Clerkship is **CALLED INTERNSHIP** now after **FMGL - 2021 NOTIFICATION** is said to be Integrated with the main course between 3rd to 6th year of education.

The National Medical Commission in its FMGL 2021 has mentioned the requirement of internship of twelve months **IN ADDITION** to such course (MBBS).

The National Medical Commission is requested to tell the aspirants if this integrated internship that is being done during the course from 3rd to 6th year (practical training/ Clinical Rotation/ Clerkship) of education as mentioned by various Indian Embassies Abroad is valid as desired Internship for licensing in India or not.

There seems a desperate attempt by the almighty agents to satisfy the FMGL Regulations without any consideration of parity with local students.

NMC simply framed these policies to block the malpractices by frivolous agents to prevent sending back the partially educated clinically weak students to India that is why poor FMGE pass results.

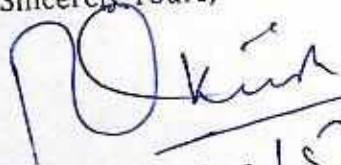
If a country cannot teach our students in parity with local students this is a clear case of manipulation by the institutions as a part of a bigger conspiracy to keep creating a trap for thousands of Indian students, making billion of dollars thereby cleverly making a fool of all.

Respected Sir, with all my humility and consciousness I request the Indian Missions Abroad to please get to the core of the subject to protect the lives and innocent aspirations of our students and seek an immediate clarity from the concerned.

These doctors are spending huge Indian money and are going to serve our country tomorrow; so please take care of highest level so that they become proper doctors not Nursing Assistants.

Hope you will direct the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the National Medical Commission to check the wrong and allow the better institutions in various countries after getting things checked.

Sincerely Yours,



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Enclosures - 112 PAGES

ADVISORY TO INDIAN STUDENTS

SEEKING ADMISSION IN GEORGIA

Embassy of India

Yerevan

In response to the various queries received from Indian students, aspiring for medical studies in Georgia, the following are the few answers provided by the Georgian authorities, for information of all concerned:

i) What is the duration of the Undergraduate Medical (MD) Program in Georgia for Indian students?

Ans: Following national regulations for programs in medicine and Medical Sector Benchmarks, which is mandatory to be fulfilled in order to get state accreditation, the duration of undergraduate MD programs in Georgia is 6 years.

ii) What is the duration of Internship/Clinical rotations in the medical course (MD)?

Ans: Up to 3rd course, the students take pre-clinical subjects, acquire clinical skills in simulation centers. Starting from the 4th course, MD students start mandatory clinical rotations. Usually, the 5th and 6th semesters are almost entirely dedicated to such rotations in clinical setting, amounting to roughly 120 ECTS on the span of the last 4 semesters.

iii) Do medical universities in Georgia provide internships in the same medical university hospitals and Indian Students (MD students) allowed to do internship in Georgia?

Ans: Some of the HEIs do have their own university clinics in Georgia, and those who do not own the clinic/hospital, usually sign the MoUs with several clinics. Such agreements shall indicate the medical directions to be served, number of students to enroll on traineeship, duration of internship, etc. All in all, HEIs provide internships/rotations either at their own or affiliated clinics. Indian students and other foreign nationals have the same right as Georgians to take these clinical courses following and fulfilling the general curriculum of the program. If they wish to undergo extra clinical activities/internships at various clinics, this can be facilitated in agreement with the HEI and clinics themselves and it always helps if the students know the local language in order to communicate with the patients. Most of the MD programs do offer the Georgian language courses within their study plan.

iv) Are Indian medical students allowed to touch the patients and practice during the internship/clinical rotations?

Ans: Students in Georgia, regardless of their nationality, are allowed to touch and physically examine the patients under the supervision of their instructor and by the consent of the patient;

v) Does an Indian (MD) student get registered under any professional regulatory body or otherwise under any institution that is competent to grant a license at par to the citizens of Georgia?

Ans.: MD students, regardless of their nationality, do not get registered under any regulatory body, as they are not allowed to perform any independent medical practice. Once they finish with the program, students usually take a national post-diploma qualification exam, which allows the graduates to continue with postgraduate studies/residency at the clinics/hospitals that are accredited by the Ministry of Health to provide such residency programs (in specialized fields of medicine). The national post-diploma qualification exam for MD graduates is administered by the Medical and Pharmaceutical Regulation Agency, operating under the guidance of the Ministry of Health. The test is in Georgian and there is no specific rule that prohibits Indian students to take it.

vi) Does an Indian (MD) student allowed to get a license to practice in Georgia as a medical practitioner? If yes, what is the process?

Ans.: That an Indian student completes the MD program, passes the PDQE successfully, gets on the track of specialized residency program and accomplishes the residency successfully, they are allowed to pursue a job in the medical/clinical sphere locally and run independent practice with the limits of law.

Yerevan

15 September 2022

(3)

REVISED ADVISORY TO INDIAN STUDENTS
SEEKING ADMISSION IN MEDICAL STUDIES IN GEORGIA

Embassy of India
Yerevan

In response to the various queries received from Indian students, aspiring for medical studies in Georgia, the following are the few revised answers provided by the Georgian authorities, for information of all concerned:

i) What is the duration of the Undergraduate Medical (MD) Program in Georgia for Indian students?

Ans: Following national legislation and related regulations on higher medical education and Medical Sector Benchmarks, which is mandatory to be fulfilled in order to get state accreditation, the duration of undergraduate MD programs in Georgia (equal to MBBS qualification in India and UK) is 6 years (360 ECTS) including internship during the 6th, graduating year.

ii) What is the duration of Internship/Clinical rotations in the medical course (MD)?

Ans: Up to 3rd course, the students take fundamental and basic pre-clinical subjects, acquire clinical skills in Clinical Skills Centers. Starting from the 4th year of study, MD students start clinical rotations (internship). During 9-12th semesters (5th and 6th years of study) students have clerkships/internship in clinical settings (university hospitals, teaching hospitals, primary care settings that meet requirements stipulated by national regulations and Sector benchmarks in Medicine), the 6th year completely comprises studies in clinical environment. Clinical clerkships/internship during this period of study comprise 120 ECTS.

iii) Do medical universities in Georgia provide internships in the same medical university hospitals and Indian Students (MD students) allowed to do internship in Georgia?

Ans: All medical schools in Georgia provide the same clinical settings (university hospitals, affiliated teaching hospitals, primary care settings) for all MD students for their clinical studies regardless their nationality and citizenship. Some of the Higher Educational Institutions (HEI) do have their own university clinics in Georgia, and those who do not own the clinic/hospital, usually sign the MoUs

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with several clinics. Such agreements shall indicate the medical field to be served, number of students to enroll on traineeship, duration of internship, etc. Indian students and other foreign nationals have the same rights as Georgians to take these clinical courses following and fulfilling the general curriculum of the program. If they wish to undergo extra clinical activities/internships at other clinics, this can be facilitated in agreement with the HEI and clinics themselves and it always helps if the students know the local language in order to communicate with the patients. All medical schools/universities MD programs provide the Georgian language course for international students within their curricula to facilitate communication with patients.

iv) Are Indian medical students allowed to touch the patients and practice during the internship/clinical rotations?

Ans: All students in Georgia, regardless of their nationality, are allowed to perform physical examination and certain medical procedures, determined by the educational curriculum, on the patients under the supervision of their instructor and after obtaining informed consent from the patient (according to the Law of Georgia on Patients' Rights).

v) Does an Indian (MD) student get registered under any professional regulatory body or otherwise under any institution that is competent to grant a license at par to the citizens of Georgia?

Ans: Indian MD students as well as other MD students regardless their nationality who study in accredited and authorized medical schools/universities by accredited agency NCEQE (National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement), which is internationally recognized as accredited Agency by World Federation of Medical Education (WFME) are registered by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia. International accreditation implies that all MD diplomas of graduates from accredited by NCEQE MD programs in Georgia are recognized worldwide.

According to the Georgian legislation, Graduates of MD program have the right:

- a) to be employed as a junior doctor – position that may be occupied by a MD graduate from state-accredited higher medical institution who shall perform the duties of a doctor according to the instructions (*Article 5 - Law of Georgia On Medical Practice*),

- b) to take the postgraduate residency course and after passing the Unified State Certification Exam get the right of independent medical practice (*Article 17, Law of Georgia on Medical Practice*),
- c) to continue doctoral studies (i.e., research career in biomedical sciences leading to PHD degree, comprising 3 years), engage in pedagogical and/or scientific activities (*Article 17, Law of Georgia on Medical Practice*).

After passing NPDQE graduates are allowed to continue with postgraduate studies/residency at the clinics/hospitals that are accredited by the Ministry of Health to provide such residency programs (in specialized fields of medicine). The national post-diploma qualification exam for MD graduates is administered by the Medical and Pharmaceutical Regulation Agency, operating under the guidance of the Ministry of Health of Georgia.

After completion residency license for independence medical practice is granted by the Ministry of Internally Displaced persons from the occupied territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia (abbr. Ministry of Health of Georgia) regardless nationality and citizenship of residency graduates.

vi) Does an Indian (MD) student allowed to get a license to practice in Georgia as a medical practitioner? If yes, what is the process?

Ans: Based on aforementioned, Indian (MD) students after graduation of undergraduate studies can work as junior doctors, or they can pass NPDQE, take the track of residency program on specialty they choose and get the license for running independent medical practice according the following regulations: A student of a higher medical educational institution, a medical resident, a physician job seeker, a junior doctor regardless of nationality, have rights to perform the duties of a doctor according to Law of Georgia on Medical Education (*Article 14 - Law of Georgia on Medical Practice*)

Yerevan

29 September 2022

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I CHECKED THE

Article 5 - Law of Georgia on Medical Practice

Article 14 - Law of Georgia on Medical Practice

Article 17, Law of Georgia on Medical Practice

Nothing has changed between the two advisories in GEORGIA but the language in advisory

<https://www.matsne.gov.ge/en/document/download/15334/14/en/pdf>

Article 5 - Definition of terms The terms used in this Law have the following meanings:

a) **medical practice** – professional activities of a person with medical education, appropriate skills and practical experience, who aims to protect, maintain, and restore the health of human beings and relieve their suffering by applying nationally recognised medical standards and ethical norms, as well as considering medical traditions;

b) **independent medical practice** – professional activities of a person with a higher medical education who holds a state certificate confirming his/her right to engage in independent medical practice, for the results of which he/she shall be responsible under the legislation of Georgia;

c) **residency** – a postgraduate stage of higher medical education consisting of educational programmes and medical practice that aims at providing professional training in one of the medical specialties on the basis of a state order (private financing is allowed for dental specialties) within the time limits determined for residency programmes;

d) **resident** – a person undergoing a residency programme in one of the medical specialties;

e) **medical specialist** – a person who has completed a residency programme in one of the medical specialties and obtained a state certificate for independent medical practice in that field;

f) **independent medical practitioner** – a person who is engaged in independent medical practice as provided for by the legislation of Georgia;

g) **telemedicine** – remote provision of medical services by health care professionals through information and communication technologies with the intent to exchange information for the purposes of disease diagnosis, treatment and prevention, as well as for the purpose of continuing education of medical personnel, medical research and evaluation of its results;

(7)

h) **university hospital** – a high quality multi-profile medical institution having appropriate basic infrastructure with qualified doctors and tutors, participating in state health care programmes and focusing on the public health care system, where clinical disciplines are taught and research works are carried out, and where junior doctors gain necessary practical skills. A university hospital belongs to a state-accredited higher medical education institution, or concludes an agreement with such institution on carrying out educational and scientific and research activities as provided for by the legislation of Georgia;

i) **continuing professional development** – the period following higher medical education and postgraduate education (vocational training), that lasts <http://www.matsne.gov.ge> 470.010.000.05.001.000.925 throughout the professional life of independent medical practitioners and is an integral part of medical practice, and intends to ensure compliance of theoretical knowledge and practical skills of the independent medical practitioners with the achievements and techniques of contemporary medicine;

j) **one-time medical service** - health care services provided to a patient (patients) the duration of which does not exceed one month;

k) **allied specialties** – medical specialties belonging to one field of medicine, the educational programmes and nature of professional practice of which to some extent coincide with each other; l) **temporary medical practice** – an independent medical practice performed by foreign nationals within the timelimits and in accordance with the procedures specified by the legislation of Georgia;

m) **junior doctor** – a position that may be occupied by a graduate with a diploma of a state-accredited higher medical institution. A person appointed to this position shall perform the duties of a doctor according to the instructions and under the responsibility of an independent medical practitioner;

Article 17 - Rights of graduates holding a higher medical institution diploma
A graduate holding a higher medical institution diploma shall have the right to:

a) complete a postgraduate vocational training programme and acquire the right to perform an independent medical practice after passing a state certification examination;

b) carry out research and teaching activities in the theoretical fields of medicine or other fields of health care that do not include an independent medical practice;

c) work as a junior doctor. (Do see the definition of junior doctor under Article 5 please)

Article 14 - Performing the duties of a doctor

1. A person without the right to independent medical practice shall perform the duties of a doctor as his/her medical practice.
2. The following persons shall have the right to perform the duties of a doctor:
 - a) **a student of a higher medical institution**, only at a university hospital or a medical facility with an appropriate academic department of the higher medical institution, within the scope of educational programmes of clinical medicine and under the direction and supervision of a specially assigned tutor, who shall be responsible for the health care services provided to a patient;
<http://www.matsne.gov.ge> 470.010.000.05.001.000.925
 - b) **a resident and a physician job-seeker**, only at the medical institutions determined by Article 15 of this Law, within the scope of postgraduate educational (vocational training) programmes and under the direction and supervision of a specially assigned medical specialist, who shall be responsible for the health care services provided to a patient, except for the cases specified by paragraph 3 of this article;
 - c) **a junior doctor**. (Do see the definition of junior doctor under Article 5 please)
3. A person, who obtained a state certificate before the commencement of a postgraduate educational (vocational training) programme, shall have the right to perform an independent medical practice during his/her postgraduate education (vocational training) only in the medical specialty specified in the state certificate.
4. Residents and **physician job-seekers** shall have no right to independent medical practice within the scope of a postgraduate educational (vocational training) programme, except for the cases where a patient is in a life-threatening condition or requires emergency medical care and it is impossible to find an independent medical practitioner in time.
5. Junior doctors shall have no right to independent medical practice, except for the cases where a patient is in a life-threatening condition or requires emergency medical care and it is impossible to find an independent medical practitioner in time.
6. Students of higher medical institutions shall have no right to independent medical practice, except for the cases where a patient is in a lifethreatening condition or requires emergency medical care and it is impossible to find an independent medical practitioner in time.

(10)

To the LTD Caucasus International University

In response to your letter №714551 dated 27 June 2022, we would like to inform you that in order for a medical student to get the Medical Doctor degree in Georgian Higher Educational Institution, successful completion of all the components envisioned by the curriculum is needed. No other type of exam, implying the licensing of the graduate is required. After awarding the qualification of Medical Doctor, the graduate is entitled to participate into Unified post-graduate Qualification Exam. After the successful completion of Qualification exam the graduate will be able to continue studies in Residency, as foreseen by the law. Successful completion of Residency is the requirement for a person to be entitled to start an independent medical practice in Georgia.

Sincerely,

Lasha Margishvili
Deputy Director
National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement

სსიპ - განათლების ხარისხის განვითარების
ეროვნული ცენტრი
დირექტორის მოადგილე
მარგიშვილი ლაშა



(11)

NOW REMOVED BUT WAS THERE FOR MANY MANY YEARS

<http://www.indianembassy.am/pages.php?id=29>

Advisory for Indian Students wishing to study in Universities in Armenia and Georgia

**Embassy of India
Yerevan**

GENERAL ADVISORY
FOR INDIAN STUDENTS WISHING TO STUDY IN ARMENIA AND GEORGIA

- **Armenia & Georgia** offer higher education in medical, technical and humanitarian sciences.
- Indian Students seeking admission in the **Yerevan State Medical University (YSMU), Armenia or Tbilisi State Medical University (TSMU)**, are informed that the Medical Council of India (MCI) recognizes **ONLY the MBBS degree**. On completion of degree course at YSMU or TSMU, Indian students are required to **clear the screening test** conducted by MCI and to receive the certificate for medical practice in India as MBBS doctors. Therefore, recognition of medical degrees awarded by YSMU and TSMU is no more relevant.
- It is mandatory that all the Certificates and mark sheets issued in India are to be apostilled at **Ministry of External Affairs (CPV Division Patiala House), New Delhi** for seeking admission.
- For clarification on **eligibility certificate**, please contact the Medical Council of India [Shri A.P. Baluni, Section Officer, Tel: 2536 7321; email: eligibility@mciindia.org].
- **YSMU in Armenia and TSMU in Georgia are only universities which are controlled by respective Governments**. There are some privately owned medical universities in both these countries whose credentials are not known.
- Indian Students are also hereby informed that the **National Polytechnic and Architecture University of Armenia** offers B.E., M.E. degrees & Ph.D. which are **not** recognized in India presently. However, an Inter-government agreement on mutual recognition of post graduate degrees & diploma with Armenia is under consideration.
- Both Armenia and Georgia are **cold countries**. The temperature from mid November till mid-March dips below zero (-1 to -15 degree Celsius). The students are advised to equip themselves with sufficient woolen clothing and winter shoes.

Before leaving India

- (12)
- Armenia & Georgia are **NOT** part of **Europe** & **NOT** members of the **European Union**.
 - Browse through the websites of YSMU & TSMU attentively.
 - It is in the interest of aspiring students who wish to study in these universities to do thorough survey & satisfy themselves about the **credibility of courses** offered by these universities and also about their agents involved, if any. Some of the self-styled agencies of these Universities are advertising through their own website (s) and/or through electronic and print media and offering admission in these universities. These advertisements do not often present correct picture and in most of the cases, they are exaggerated. Please thoroughly crosscheck the authenticity of information circulated by them.
 - Get **full and accurate details** of actual costs involved such as **Tuition Fee/Boarding/Lodging/Other Expenses**. Also **cross check and verify what the agent quotes**. Both in Armenia and Georgia, in addition to tuition fee, a minimum **US\$ 300-400 per month** is required to meet expenditure on accommodation, food, cell phone and other personal needs.
 - Students **must check in advance the availability hostel facilities** at the University where they are seeking admission. Presently, TSMU in Georgia doesn't run its own hostels for students while in YSMU in Armenia offers hostels to new entrants. If deficit arises, senior (foreign) students are normally advised to move out of hostel and to arrange accommodation for self outside the campus. Students are also expected to make their own arrangements for food, if *they wish*. Some small eateries are available around hostels.
 - Some Indian restaurants are available in Yerevan and Tbilisi which are owned by local Indian businessmen at affordable rates.
 - Any student during the stay in Armenia/Georgia requires treatment for any complicated ailment/major surgery and etc, he/she is advised to go to India or elsewhere.

On arrival in Armenia/Georgia

- Both Armenia and Georgia are fairly safe, secured and friendly towards Indian nationals. There is a great deal of goodwill for India. However, caution is very essential for foreigners particularly students while spending late night hours in public places and mingling with strangers.
- All Indian nationals including students coming to Armenia and Georgia for long term stay are advised to register themselves with the Indian Embassy in Yerevan immediately upon arrival.
- Always keep a list of important telephone numbers and copies of your passport, visa endorsement and residence permit, and University ID Card with you in person. Police authorities on streets may demand these documents any time for verification.
- Passport and original testimonials are the property of the concerned student and should not be given to agents or any other authorities for safe custody. It

is the personal responsibility of individual concerned to keep the passports and testimonials safely.

- Ensure that visa formalities are arranged by respective authorities in the university well in advance to avoid last minute hassles. Before exiting Armenia or Georgia for short term vacation or leave, ensure that the visa is sufficiently validated to re-enter these countries.

On completion of course

- Once the course is completed, all the degrees, certificates awarded by Universities in Armenia and Georgia are required to be apostilled with the Ministries of Education of these countries. This requirement is mandatory before their submission to Indian organizations such as MCI and other State Medical Councils etc. for registration purposes.
- India, Armenia and Georgia are signatories to the "**Hague Convention**" on Apostille. If the certificates and degrees are issued in these countries are apostilled, then there is **no need** for further attestation by the Embassy of India in Yerevan.

For more information, please click on the following link:
<http://mea.gov.in/apostille.htm>

Part-time job prospects

- Part-time jobs are very selectively available in both the countries for low wages.

As on 18 September, 2015

Phone: 25367033, 25367035, 25367036

Fax: 00-1-11-2536704

ई/मेल-E-mail: ug@nmc.org.in

पॉकेट-14, सेक्टर - 8, द्वरका
फेस- १, नई दिल्ली - 110077
Pocket-14, Sector-8, Dwarka
Phase -1, New Delhi - 110077

राष्ट्रीय आयुर्विज्ञान आयोग
National Medical Commission
Under Graduate Medical Education Board

No. U.15024/7/2023-UGMEB

1032477-77

Dated, the

12th June., 2023

To,

Shri Ravi Kumar Koul,
Plot No. 21, Pocket 1,
Ground Floor, Ramaprashta Greens,
Sector 7, Vaishali, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh, India,
PIN : 201010.

Subject :- **Medical Education Abroad.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your representations dated 15.03.2023 & 23.03.2023, addressed to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, received from Ministry of Health & Family Welfare vide their letter No. V.11025/82/2023-MEP (FTS No. 8217143) dated 18.04.2023 forwarding therewith two PMO references (PMOPG/D/2023/0064368 dated 28.03.2023 & PMOPG/D/2023/0066909 dated 31.03.2023) alongwith your above mentioned representations, requesting NMC to revisit/amend some of the provisions of the Gazette Notification, FAQs, proposed draft regulations issued by NMC.

2. As regard your representation dated 15.03.2023, PMO reference (PMOPG/D/2023/0064368 dated 28.03.2023) the following clarifications on the queries raised by you, are submitted as under :-

In this regard, it is stated that National Medical Commission does not approve or recognize Foreign Medical Universities or Institutes for award of any medical qualification. Further, based on intermittent inputs from Ministry of External Affairs, National Medical Commission has issued advisories to warn Indian students about foreign medical institutes & Universities such as Avicenna International Medical University in Kyrgyzstan. However, the case to display the list of recognized/ approved foreign medical institutions on the website of NMC, is under correspondence with the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

3. As regard your representation dated 23.03.2023, PMO reference (PMOPG/D/2023/0066909 dated 31.03.2023) the following clarifications on the queries raised by you, are submitted as under :-

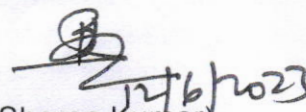
- (i) Presently NExT Step-1 & NExT Step 2 is not executing in India. However, the same is under examination & will be finalized shortly by the National Medical Commission.
- (ii) There is no such provision in the National Medical Commission the duration of the foreign medical graduation course. However, after completion of MBBS or equivalent course in the foreign countries the FMGs have to qualify the Foreign Medical Graduate Exam. in India which is conducted by the National Board of Examination.

Contd.....P/2

o/c

- (iii) After passing 10+2 or equivalent with subjects of Physics, Chemistry, Biology/Biotechnology and English, for MBBS course the candidate has to appear NEET (National Eligibility and Entrance Test) Exam. & after qualifying the NEET Exam. & obtaining Eligibility Certificate from the National Medical Commission the candidate can take admission in the recognized Foreign University/Medical College or Medical Institute for completion of MBBS or equivalent course in the Foreign Country. After completion of the course & returning in India the candidate has to qualify the Foreign Medical Graduate Exam. in India. After qualify the Foreign Medical Graduate Exam. in India the FMG has to do one year internship in any recognized medical college in India. Then the FMG can get license to practice in India.
4. This issues with the approval of President, UGMEB.

Yours faithfully


(Shambhu Sharan Kumar)
Director, UGMEB