

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3293
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07TH AUGUST, 2026**

WORKING OF DOCTORS BEYOND WORKING HOURS

†3293. SHRI AJENDRA SINGH LODHI:

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

- (a) whether the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has sought a compliance report from the Ministry of Health regarding the issue of postgraduate resident doctors being made to work beyond the prescribed limits and the violation of the Postgraduate Medical Education Regulations, 2023 at R.G. Kar Medical College, Kolkata;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken so far against the concerned officials and the institution in the said matter and the details of the person held responsible for not submitting the compliance report on time;
- (c) whether resident doctors in various medical colleges are being made to work up to 80-100 hours per week which is a violation of the prescribed norms across the country, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) whether the Government is ensuring strict compliance with the safety and working-hour limits for resident doctors and if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (d): Case No 441/90/0/2025 of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) was referred to Ministry to submit the action taken report on a complaint dated 17.03.2025.

Matter was examined in the Ministry in consultation with National Medical Commission (NMC) and submitted the report to NHRC, wherein it was informed as follows:

- i. As per regulation 5.2 (ii) of the PGMER, 2023, "All post-graduate students will work as full time resident doctors. They will work for reasonable working hours and will be provided reasonable time for rest in a day". Further, as per Regulation 9.1 of the PGMER, 2023, "For non- compliance or omission, the PGMEB will penalize the medical college/ institutions.". PGMEB, NMC is empowered to take action against

the concerned medical college/ institution, as per specified under Regulation 9.2 of the PGMER, 2023.

- ii. NMC Anti-Ragging Committee convened a meeting on 14.08.2024 to deliberate upon the incident and its wider implications for the safety, well-being, and working conditions of medical students and resident doctors across the country. As an immediate measure, NMC issued an Advisory dated 13.08.2024 to all Medical Colleges and Institutions.
- iii. MoHFW/DGHS has issued directions to all Central Government Hospitals/Institutes, AIIMSs and all Medical Colleges to ensure filing of institutional FIR within maximum period of 6 hours of any incident of violence against doctors and other healthcare personnel vide OM dated 16.08.2024 and also issued advisories to States/UTs vide D.O. letters dated 23.08.2024 and 03.09.2024 to take immediate measures for enhancing security and providing safer working environment for medical professionals.
- iv. The incident at R.G. Kar Medical College, West Bengal was taken up by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in SMW (Crl) No. 2 of 2024, wherein the Hon'ble Court had constituted a National Task Force (NTF) to formulate recommendations for redressal of the issues regarding safety, well-being and working conditions of medical professionals. The Report of NTF had been submitted to the Hon'ble Court in November, 2024.

Also, as "Public Health and Hospitals" is a state subject, the respective State Governments/UT Administrations prescribe norms for doctors' working hours, service conditions, duty rosters in the concerned institutions, taking into account local requirements and applicable service rules.
