

Cabinet Approves 75 New Medical Colleges – 15,700 MBBS Seats to Be Added by 2020-21

BENGALURU, August 29: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given its approval for establishment of 75 new Government Medical Colleges across India. This approval from the Central Government will increase undergraduate MBBS seats by 15,700 which will lead to the total number of undergraduate medical and dental seats in the country to close to one lakh.

The new medical colleges will be established in the next three years by 2021-22, under the phase III expansion plan of the ongoing centrally sponsored scheme. The new medical colleges will be set up in under-served areas having no medical college or with at least 200 bedded District Hospital. While establishing the medical colleges, preference will be given to Aspirational Districts and District Hospital having 300 beds.

As quoted in the press release, “the establishment of new medical colleges would lead to an increase in the availability of qualified health professionals, improve tertiary care in Government sector, utilize existing infrastructure of districts hospitals and promote affordable medical education in the country.”

The Central Government has also sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 24,375 crores in the 15th Finance Commission for establishment of 75 new Government Medical Colleges with 15,700 new MBBS seats.

The establishment of new medical colleges to be done under three phases which will lead to addition of at least 15,700 MBBS seats in the country. In the first phase a total of 58 new medical colleges were approved out of which 39 medical colleges have already started functioning, while the remaining 19 would be made functional by 2020-21. While in Phase 2, a total of 24 medical colleges were proposed out of which 18 colleges have been approved.

As per government in last five years, over 45000 news seats were created in undergraduate and postgraduate medical admissions.

NEET 2020 will have more MBBS Seats

[NEET 2020](#) which is scheduled to be held on May 3 in pen and paper-based mode will have an additional of 15,700 MBBS seats. The admission chances of NEET UG aspirants will be marginally higher due to the approval of more medical colleges and increased in undergraduate seats. With the addition of more seats, NEET 2020 will be conducted for admission to nearly 1 lakh MBBS and BDS seats under 15% All India and 85% State quota seats.

In NEET 2018, a total number of 1519375 candidates registered and 1410755 appeared in the exam. Among the total appeared, only 797042 candidates qualified.