

THE NEWS

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PMDC stops medical colleges from admissions

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Islamabad

Pakistan Medical and Dental Council has stopped seven private medical colleges from offering admissions due to deficient teaching facilities.

These colleges include Abbottabad International Medical College, Abbottabad; Muhammad Medical College, Mirpurkhas; Mohiuddin Islamic Medical College, Mirpur; Al-Tibri Medical College, Karachi; Independent Medical College, Faisalabad; Rahbar Medical College and Faryal Medical College, Punjab; according to PMDC Administrator Dr Amjad Mehmood.

The PMDC administrator told a news conference here that the council had taken strict notice of the medical and dental colleges, which were deficient in their faculty and didn't have their own hospitals. He said the council was trying to improve its functioning and private medical colleges.

Dr Raja Amjad said PMDC was conducting inspections of all medical and dental colleges and pointing out their deficiencies in writing to them to fulfil the requirements laid down by the Council. He said that he would not compromise on the standard of medical and dental education and the process of inspection would continue until the requirements were fulfilled by the medical/dental institutions as per laid down criteria of PMDC.

"There are 23 medical and dental colleges which still don't have their own properly equipped hospitals and they were given three years to complete their hospital requirements and to rectify their deficiencies but still they have not been able to meet the laid down criteria," he said.

The PMDC administrator said that there had been many other discrepancies in recognition of medical and dental colleges for which the National

Regulations and Services Ministry had already constituted a three-member panel headed by former Lahore High Court judge Syed Shabbar Raza for inquiry into the alleged administrative irregularities done by ex-registrar Dr Nadeem Akbar, especially recognition of 19 medical colleges in a single day.

He said that PMDC had already handed over its record of doctors and dentists, including the foreign-qualified ones, and registration certificates issued by it over the last 10 years to NAB and action had been initiated on the reports of massive corruption, misuse of authority, violation of rules and procedures, and accumulation of assets beyond known sources of income by the ex-registrar under its Prevention Regime Initiatives.

Dr Amjad said that PMDC had made many landmark decisions in these days for the uplift of medical and dental education Honourable Minister

NRSD through his directives has instructed PMDC to ensure implementation of its regulations in true spirit few of which are 50 per cent of welfare beds by attached teaching hospitals, five per cent quota for non-affordable eligible students to undergraduate.

He said that PMDC had formulated a policy and directed all the medical colleges to allocate 50 per cent beds for the poor patient free of cost including consultation fee and treatment, simultaneously.

The PMDC administrator said that a module system was also in process to be devised for house job or foundation year in which BLS course would be mandatory during house job if not done during final year.

"Assessment exam after completion of house job will also be a requirement to be fulfilled by the institution and the completion certificate shall be issued to the doctors after ful-

filment of these requirements PM&DC is also deciding to re-assess hospitals for recognition of house job as there are many hospitals which do not meet minimum requirements as per criteria of house job training to house officers," he said. He said that a hotline network with all the private and public medical colleges to help facilitate the patient complaints on war footings was also in process.

Dr Amjad said that he met the Nadra chairman to ensure upgradation of PM&DC website (Data management) and facilitate PM&DC in the development of computerization of record of registered medical/dental practitioners, medical/dental faculty, postgraduate/undergraduate students and medical/dental colleges. PMDC is also going to introduce smart card for the doctors with the detailed information of bio data of doctors with the help of Nadra," he said.