

FACULTY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI
दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय

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Report of the Committee on Span Period of MBBS Course

A Committee was constituted by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor to consider the matters relating to span period of MBBS course in its entirety and to make suitable recommendations in this regard

The Committee met on 16th June 2021 and 26th June 2021. Meetings were attended by the following:-

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| 1. | Prof. Neelam Vaney, Dean, Faculty of A & U Medicine | Chairperson | |
| 2. | Dr. Ritu Arora, Dean, MAMC | Member | Participated in the meetings through on-line mode |
| 3. | Dr. Jyoti KHandekar, LHMC | Nominee of the Director, LHMC | Participated in the meetings through on-line mode |
| 4. | Dr. Ajay Kumar Arora, OSD (Examinations) | Member | Participated in the meeting through on-line mode on 26.6.2021 |
| 5. | Sh. Deepak Vats, Joint Registrar, FMSc | Member | Participated in the meeting through on-line mode on 16.6.2021 |
| 6. | Shri Sanjay Kumar, Asstt. Registrar, Legal Cell | Member | |

Shri Gaurav Aggarwal, Asstt. Registrar (Academic), LHMC and Shri Rajesh Sachdeva, Registrar, MAMC were also present in the meetings through online mode to assist the Committee in the deliberations.

Shri Ashwani Kumar, Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Medical Sciences was also present in the meetings.

1. Three Medical Colleges of the University of Delhi informed that there are approximately 65 pending cases of students (admitted on or after academic session 2011) at different stages, who could not/ would not be able to complete their MBBS course during the span period.

2. Legal Cell, University of Delhi informed that the cases regarding span period of MBBS course are pending before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

3. Since National Medical Commission (NMC) is the regulatory authority for the medical courses, a request was made to it to seek a clarification on regulatory provisions regarding span period before 2019 as from 2019 onwards National Medical Commission has made a provision of span period of

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ten years for MBBS course in its Regulation and it has been adopted by the University.

4. National Medical Commission vide its letter dated 24.6.2021 has informed that its regulatory provisions made in its Regulations on Graduate Medical Education Regulations (GMER) (Amended) 2019 shall be applicable with respect to batches admitted in MBBS course in the academic year 2019-2020 onwards and the University has to refer its norms and guidelines if the same has not been mentioned in the GMER guidelines.

5. In the light of clarifications received from the National Medical Commission a legal opinion was sought from Shri Mohinder J.S. Rupal, Standing Counsel of the University. Shri Rupal has given a detailed opinion vide email dated 26.6.2021 which was placed before the Committee. Shri Rupal has concluded his opinion as under:-

"Therefore, University of Delhi as a matter of policy (more particularly when it is informed that there was no such span period provided by MCI/NMC till the above referred Regulation on GMER (Amended), 2019) could reconsider clause No. IV of Ordinance 2011, as per Delhi University Act 1922 (Amended from time to time) and its statutes but the same should relate back to all students who got debarred in 2019 and onwards on account of applicability of this Clause IV of Ordinance 2011 to such students."

6. The matter was deliberated by the Committee in detail and from the discussions and the records placed before it, the following emerged:-

a) University of Delhi has been consistently following guidelines/regulations of Medical Council of India (now National Medical Commission) regarding MBBS Course.

b) Span period has not been provided for the MBBS course on the lines of other courses offered by the University of Delhi.

c) MBBS Ordinance as approved by the Executive Council in its meeting held on 19.4.1998 contained the following provisions :

"(b) No candidate shall be allowed to appear in the 1st MBBS Examination for more than 4 times or be allowed to remain on rolls of the University longer than a period covering four such consecutive examinations (Annual and Supplementary). No candidate shall be permitted to appear in the Second MBBS Examination unless he/she has passed the first Examination about 8 months previously."

d) Later on, MCI vide its notification dated 26.9.2003 published in the Gazette of India on 30.9.2003 deleted the provisions regarding prescribing 4 chances to qualify in the 1st Professional examination in its Graduate Medical Education Regulation (GMER). The University has

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followed this change made by the Medical Council of India in its Regulation and no restrictions was applicable to the students of MBBS Course regarding number of attempts or span period to complete the course.

e) The University revised the MBBS/BDS Ordinance in 2011 (AC 8.7.2011, EC-9.7.2011) to reconcile it with the Regulations of Medical Council of India notified from time to time and a provision regarding span period was made in the amended ordinance as under:-

"4(b) Span period : maximum of 8 (eight) year from the date of admission in the 1st Professional MBBS course (excluding internship training period)."

f) It has been clarified by the National Medical Commission vide its letter dated 24.6.2021 that no provision regarding span period was made in the Regulations till the amendments were made in 2019 for the students admitted in the year 2019-20 and onwards.

g) Standing Counsel of the University is of the opinion that the University as a matter of policy could reconsider Clause 4(b) of MBBS Ordinance, 2011 in view of the clarification from National Medical Commission.

7. After considering the above, the Committee was of the view that students admitted to MBBS course in Delhi University from 2011 to 2018 should not be put to a disadvantageous position by stipulating the requirement of span period, when no such requirement has been made by the regulator of medical education (National Medical Commission / Medical Council of India) before 2019 and, therefore, the committee recommended that:

- (i) Clause 4(b) of MBBS Ordinance of 2011 regarding span period be deleted by amending the relevant Ordinance of the University.
- (ii) Any student admitted to MBBS course from the academic session 2011-2012 to 2018-19, who was not allowed to appear in the examination due to the provision of span period may be allowed to appear in the examinations, provided he/she fulfill other requirements

Neelam Doney 26/6/21
(Prof. Neelam Doney)
Chairperson