

Voice of the Expert

Mixopathy

The recent notification on 'Mixopathy' issued by the Central Government has triggered serious controversy among the modern medicine doctors in the country. In an exclusive interview given to the JIMA.

Dr J A Jayalal, National President, IMA has thrown lights on some important issues. Here are some excerpts.

Q. What's your opinion about the notification of CCIM dated :

This is an arbitrary unacceptable move by the Centre deviating from the primary objective of providing better modern medicine treatment to all people in our country.

Q. What Do you mean by 'Mixopathy'?

'Mixopathy', a policy advocated by the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the Four committees of NITI Aayog for officially integrating the systems of medicine in medical education, practice, public health and administration, would ring the death knell of modern medicine system as a whole. All the undergraduate and post graduate degrees in modern medicine would also be abolished.

The purity and identity of Ayurveda would be equally challenged. The policy would have also a major impact on the image of Indian doctors in abroad. Medical tourism would also be affected with drastic fall in number of patients coming to Indian hospitals from foreign countries.

Q. Is there any dearth of Doctors in modern medicine and surgery that prompted the Centre to introduce such an irrational and non-pragmatic move?

India has sufficient number of around 13 lakh doctors and the WHO has also recently excluded our country from the list countries with inadequate number of doctors in modern medicine. Doctors-patients ratio in our country is 1000:1. Unfortunately, job opportunities for graduate doctors are not sufficient because of poor infrastructure in healthcare services in both public and private sectors and dissatisfying salary.

Every year, 86000 medical graduates are coming out from 586 teaching hospitals but all of them don't have jobs.

The Speaker in the Lok Sabha has caught COVID-19 infections. Is he taking treatment of Ayurveda medicine?

Q. What's your view about MS (Ayurveda) surgeons offering services to rural people?

We should not differentiate between patients in rural and urban categories. All patients are equal to us.

It would be a 'mass genocide' if the Ayurveda surgeons offer services to patients belonging to any category. There are around 440 Ayurveda medical colleges in India and most of them are owned by political leaders.

The move to bring 'Mixopathy' is nothing but a plan to increase the market of Ayurveda products. How many Ayurveda doctors have their presence in rural India?

Q. What's the present training pathway for modern medical graduates to become a surgeon or surgical specialist?

It takes eleven and a half years with rigorous study for entrance and semester examinations for different levels of medical courses starting from MBBS, MD/MS to post doctoral DM and MCh while for an Ayurveda



Prof J A Jayalal

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National President, IMA

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Q. Do you feel 'Mixopathy' will cause any harm to people?

Considering its harmful impact on patients IMA has already called for a non-cooperation movement asking surgeons and anaesthesiologists not to cooperate in training the Ayush doctors in protest against the notification.

Q. What's the role of the IMA to protect people's health?

We are always for the causes of the common people since 1928 when this body was formed. Our objective is not only for doctors but also for the entire community.

Q. CCIM is under the union health ministry. Will you take up the issue with the ministry?

We have already submitted a list to the Union government of 1,500 modern medicine doctors who are willing to serve in any remote areas of the country. This is done to counter the false claim of lack of doctors which is cited as a reason to promote mixopathy.

We have also moved the Supreme Court against the notification. The case has been accepted in the Apex Court.

Recently, the Ayurveda minister met an accident in Goa. Did he rush to any Ayurveda doctor seeking emergency treatment?

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Q, Which one is your priority? Utilisation of 'Mixopathy' or improvement in infrastructure facilities, increase in GDP allocation for health instead of giving knives and scissors to Ayurveda doctors following the notification?

Our priority would be definitely to increase for GDP allocation in health and infrastructure development with setting up of more medical colleges and hospitals across states and UTs.

Q. Will the move of mixopathy have direct impact on both higher study in medical science and employment generation of young MBBS doctors coming out from 550 medical colleges across the country?

It will have major impact on common people instead of doctors community.

Q. Will the think-tanks of the CCIM notification recommending 'Mixopathy' rush to any 'Ayurvedic surgeons' if they require any major surgery?

You know the answer better than me. Recently, the Ayurveda minister met an accident in Goa. Did he rush to any Ayurveda doctor seeking emergency treatment?

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Prof J A Jayalal, thank you for the valuable insight into 'MIXOPATHY'.