NFT results show more students opting for non-clinical courses: Health Ministry official























Representational Image

NEW DELHI: NEET results over the years have shown more students are opting for nonclinical courses in medical and dental colleges, a senior official of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare said on Monday.

Sudhansh Pant, joint secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, said this during a conference on the "role of biomedical scientists in New

India" organised by the National M.Sc Teachers' Association (NMMTA), a representative body of non-medical teachers in non-clinical departments of medical and dental colleges in India.

NMMTA has been protesting against a Medical Council of India proposal that reportedly aims to reduce appointment of non-medical teachers in colleges to 15 per cent from 30 per cent. It has said that the proposal "jeopardises job opportunities for those having M.Sc postgraduate degrees".

"Unfortunately, when one talks of medical education, the role of M.Sc medical teachers somehow gets relegated to the background a little bit... Medical teachers who are doctors get prominence," Pant said.

"The role of M.Sc teachers is crucial. When we analyse NEET results...I feel that more and more students have been expressing interest in subjects such as anatomy, physiology, biochemistry and paramedical subjects like microbiology," he said.

"Earlier a majority of seats in non-clinical and para-clinical courses were not getting filled because candidates won't opt for such subjects. But there has been a gradual shift, there's been a change," he added.

The health ministry official said the government will try and ensure that whatever best can be done for this segment "within the overall framework of rules and regulations" will be looked into with full responsibility.

Non-medical teachers are those having medical M.Sc degree/Ph.D in anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, microbiology and biochemistry from MCI-recognised colleges.



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