

To

Sh J P Nadda
Honorable Minister for Health & Family Welfare
C Block Nirman Bhawan
New Delhi 110001

Re; Appeal for amendment in Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, The Indian Evidence Act 1872

Sir,

Medicos Legal Action Group is a Registered Trust formed by few doctors from all over the Country to look after interests and welfare of MBBS doctors and take legal action where needed. The trust works to create and spread awareness in the medical profession and the public about medicolegal issues through various means, for removal of quackery, for the diffusion of useful knowledge on matters related to health specially with training and working of medical personnel and to liaison and advocate with Government and its agencies including MCI, MOHFW, State Governments on issues related to MBBS doctors their training , their service matters and overall welfare.

MBBS doctors today are threatened, victimized, and beaten up on flimsy grounds. We repeatedly come across news items regarding doctors being beaten by patient or relatives following an adverse outcome. Hospitals both Government and Private are vandalized and equipment damaged. To protect medical persons from violence and to prevent damage to hospital property a total of 17 States and Union Territories have enacted Prevention of Violence against medical persons and medicare institutions Act including Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Delhi, Punjab , Haryana , Goa among others. Copies of some State Acts are appended with this petition. These being State Acts are not included in IPC and Code of Criminal Procedure. The police and other law enforcement agencies thus are ignorant of Sections under which miscreants are to be booked which invariably results in them getting away scot free.

We appeal for amendment in Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 and Indian Evidence Act to make violence against medical professionals, medical establishments and damage to property, as non bailable criminal offences with stringent punishment prescribed specifically. Punishment prescribed for violence against medical persons and medical establishments should be more than punishment for similar crime against non medical persons and establishments. Once the IPC is amended the need for strict Implementation of the State Acts will finish if such amendment is brought in IPC.

Doctors today feel victimized and insecure working in hostile environment. Youngsters have started leaving medical profession or picking up non clinical less

demanding area of work. We request you to kindly look into the matter and do the needful.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely

Dr Neeraj Nagpal
Convenor
Medicos Legal Action Group
Ex President IMA Chandigarh
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