



ABSTRACT

Medical Institutions – Identification and initiating action against Unauthorised Institutions / Institutions conducting unapproved courses in Health Sector, including Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, Allied and Healthcare, Rehabilitation Sciences, Indian Systems of Medicine (Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani), Homeopathy, Yoga and Naturopathy and Public Health – Standard Operating Procedure – Orders – Issued.

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PME-2) DEPARTMENT

G.O. (Ms.) No.170

Dated : 29.06.2026
Visuvavasu, Aani-16
Thiruvalluvar Aandu-2057

Read :

1. From the Registrar, Tamil Nadu Nurses and Midwives Council, Chennai, Letter Ref. No.17/NC/2023, dated 31.10.2023 and 10.11.2025.
2. From the Director of Medical Education & Research, Letter Ref. No.99049/NE1/2024, dated 29.10.2024.
3. From the Director of Medical Education & Research, Letter Ref. No.98236/BP(1)/2024, dated 04.11.2024 and 19.11.2025.
4. From the Registrar (FAC), The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Chennai Letter Ref. Affln.III(1) / 33230 / 2024, dated 18.11.2024.
5. From the Director of Medical Education & Research, Letter Ref. No.094608/PME/2/2025, dated 12.11.2025.
6. From the Director of Medical Education & Research, Letter Ref. No.106198/Bon-1/2025, dated 17.11.2025.

ORDER:

Complaints have been received that certain institutions are operating without obtaining approval of the Central or State Government, affiliation from a recognised University, a recognition from the competent Statutory Council or Board. Even among the institutions that have obtained approval, certain courses are being offered without the requisite affiliation, recognition or statutory sanction. These institutions and courses span the full range of health education, including Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, Allied and Healthcare, Rehabilitation Sciences, Indian Systems of Medicine (Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani), Homeopathy, Yoga and Naturopathy and Public Health. Such institutions often mislead students into enrolling in such courses at a high cost resulting in financial loss, academic uncertainty and long-term

detriment to student careers, apart from posing risks to public health and safety. Despite instructions issued by the State Government from time to time, such unauthorised institutions and institutions conducting unapproved courses continue to be reported in different places.

2. In this background, the Government have considered it necessary to frame a Standard Operating Procedure to identify and initiate action against Unauthorised Institutions / Institutions conducting Unapproved Courses in the Health Sector.

3. The Government, after careful examination, hereby issue the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for identification and initiating action against Unauthorised Institutions / Institutions conducting Unapproved Courses in the Health Sector including Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, allied and Healthcare, Rehabilitation Sciences, Indian Systems of Medicine (Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani), Homeopathy, Yoga and Naturopathy and Public Health. A copy of the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is annexed to this order.

4. The concerned authorities are directed to take necessary further action accordingly.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

**DAREZ AHAMED
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To

The Director of Medical Education and Research, Chennai – 600 010.

The Director of Medical and Rural Health Services, Chennai – 600 006.

The Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Chennai – 600 006.

The Additional Director of Medical Education / Secretary,

Selection Committee, Chennai – 600 010.

All Deans / Joint Director of Health Services / District Health Officers.

All District Collectors.

All District Superintendents of Police.

The Director of Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy, Chennai – 600 106.

The Registrar (FAC), The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University,
Chennai – 600 032.

The Registrar, Tamil Nadu Nurses and Midwives Council, Mylapore,
Chennai – 600 004.

The Registrar, Tamil Nadu Pharmacy Council,
Block-E, First Floor, Bharathiar Complex, 100 Feet Inner Ring Road,
Vadapalani, Chennai – 600 026.

The Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Allied and Healthcare Council,
IIFL Towers, 7th Floor, 143, MGR Main Road, Kandanchavadi,
Chennai – 600 096.

The Registrar, Tamil Nadu Medical Council,
No. 959 & 960, Poonamallee High Road, Purasaiwakkam, Chennai – 600 084.

The Registrar, Tamil Nadu Dental Council,
5-0-3, Arihant Majestic Towers, 216, Jawaharlal Nehru Salai,
Jai Nagar, Koyambedu, Chennai – 600 107.

The Director / Secretary, Board of Allied and Healthcare Education,
King Institute of Preventive Medicine and Research, Guindy, Chennai – 600032.

The Registrar, Tamil Nadu Homoeopathy Medical Council,
Arumbakkam, Chennai – 600 106.

The Registrar (i/c), Tamil Nadu Siddha Medical Council, Arumbakkam,
Chennai – 600 106.

The Registrar (i/c), Tamil Nadu Board of Indian Medicine, Arumbakkam,
Chennai – 600 106.

Copy to:

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government (Home, Prohibition & Excise)
Department, Chennai – 600 009.

The Director General of Police, Chennai – 600 004.

The Special Personal Assistant to Hon'ble Minister (Health, Medical Education and
Family Welfare), Chennai – 600 009.

The Health and Family Welfare (MCA / IM1 / N / Data Cell) Department,
Chennai – 600 009.

Stock File / Spare Copy.

// FORWARDED / BY ORDER //

Danip
SECTION OFFICER
KR
21/05/2024

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

For Identification and Initiating Action against Unauthorised Institutions / Institutions conducting Unapproved Courses in Health Sector including Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, Allied and Healthcare, Rehabilitation Sciences, Indian Systems of Medicine (Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani), Homeopathy, Yoga and Naturopathy and Public Health.

1. Preamble:-

The District administration receives complaints that certain institutions are operating without obtaining approval of the Central or State Government, affiliation from the recognised University, and recognition from the Competent Statutory Council or Board. Even among the institutions that have obtained approval, certain courses are being offered without the requisite affiliation, recognition or Statutory sanction. These institutions and courses may be in Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, Allied and Healthcare, Rehabilitation Sciences, Indian Systems of Medicine (Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani), Homeopathy, Yoga and Naturopathy and Public Health.

The Institutions operating without affiliation of recognised University, approval of State or Central Government and Statutory Councils are illegal. Such institutions often mislead students into enrolling such courses at a high cost. This results in financial loss, academic uncertainty and long-term detriment to student careers, apart from posing risks to public health and safety.

Despite instructions issued by the State Government from time to time, such unauthorised institutions and institutions conducting unapproved courses are reported in different places. This Standard Operating Procedure (hereinafter referred to as "SOP") proposes to establish a uniform and clearly defined operational framework for district-level action against both.

2. Objective:-

The objective of this SOP is to adopt procedure for-

- (i) identification and verification of unauthorised institutions and institutions offering unapproved courses in Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, Allied and Healthcare, Rehabilitation Sciences, Indian Systems of Medicine (Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani), Homeopathy, Yoga and Naturopathy and Public Health; and
- (ii) taking action on the violations through legal process and safeguarding the interests of students.

3. Nodal Authority:-

The Joint Director of Health Services shall serve as the Nodal Officer at the District Level for implementation of this SOP in respect of all health related courses covered herein. The Joint Director of Health Services shall be responsible for coordination with the District Collector, Police authorities, the competent Universities and the concerned Statutory Councils.

The Registrar, the Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Directorate of Medical Education and Research, Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Directorate of Indian Medicine shall share the list of approved institutions and approved course district-wise to the Joint Director of Health Services concerned, on the First April of every year and whenever new institutions are approved or modified or closed.

4. Roles and responsibilities of the Joint Director of Health Services:-

The Joint Director of Health Services shall—

- (i) compile a list of all recognized institutions offering Health related courses covered under this SOP within the district, based on the inputs received from the Deans of Government Medical Colleges, Deputy Directors of Health Services, District Health Officers, officers of the Directorate of Indian Medicine and Homeopathy and other field officers; and
- (ii) on receipt of complaints regarding institutions operating without authorisation or institutions offering courses without the requisite approval, cause an inspection to be conducted with regard to affiliation to University, Statutory Council, Government (or) the appropriate State Level Authority. If it is found that the institution is functioning illegally or offering courses without proper approval, details may be submitted to the District Collector and after approval of the District Collector, a complaint shall be lodged with the Superintendent of Police or the Commissioner of Police, as the case may be.

5. Inspection and Verification:-

On receipt of a complaint regarding an unauthorised institution or an institution offering unapproved courses, the Joint Director of Health Services shall constitute an inspection team to visit the institution concerned. The inspection team shall include, in addition to officers under the Joint Director of Health Services, officers from the relevant Department / Directorate having domain expertise in the category of course being inspected. In this regard, officer under the Directorate of Medical Education and Research, Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Directorate of Indian Medicine and Homeopathy may be called for verification in the case of Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy and Allied and Healthcare, Rehabilitation Science, Indian Systems of Medicine (Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani), Homeopathy, Yoga and Naturopathy and Public Health.

The inspection team shall verify the following, namely:-

- (i) whether the institution itself is authorised to operate, as reflected in the official records of the Government, the competent University and the relevant Statutory Council as specified in the Annexure to this SOP;

- (ii) whether each course being offered by the institution carries the requisite permission from the Government, affiliation from the competent University and recognition from the relevant Statutory Council as specified in the Annexure, irrespective of whether the institution itself holds a general approval to operate;
- (iii) student admission records, including the courses in which students are enrolled, fees collected from them and any original certificates deposited with the institution; and
- (iv) available infrastructure and clinical training facilities.

The Inspection Report shall be submitted to the District Collector promptly and follow up action shall be taken based on the Inspection Report.

6. Action on Detection of Violations:-

On the basis of the Inspection Report, if an institution is found to be operating without authorisation, or is found to be offering one or more courses without the requisite affiliation or recognition or approval, the Joint Director of Health Services shall place a factual report before the District Collector.

After the approval of the District Collector, the Joint Director of Health Services shall lodge a formal complaint with the Superintendent of Police or the Commissioner of Police, as the case may be, for initiation of action under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (Central Act 45 of 2023), including offences relating to cheating, dishonest inducement, public nuisance affecting public safety, forgery, misrepresentation and causing danger to public safety and health. In addition, cases may also be filed under appropriate sections of the Act governing relevant Council, etc.

The District Collector shall take such steps as are necessary to prevent further admission to the unauthorised institution or to the unapproved course, as the case may be, and, wherever warranted, order the closure of such institution after following due process of law. General public should also be informed through a press release.

7. Public Disclosure and Awareness:-

- (i) The Directorate of Medical Education and Research, the Directorate of Medical and Rural Health Services, the Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, the Directorate of Indian Medicine and Homeopathy, and the competent Universities, shall publish updated lists of authorised institutions and approved courses on their official websites on the First April of every year and whenever such lists are updated;
- (ii) The Joint Director of Health Services shall, at the district level, periodically compile and circulate the list of authorised institutions and approved courses within the district to the District Collector and, the District Collector shall disseminate such information through press releases and public notices, to prevent students from being misled by unauthorised institutions or institutions conducting unapproved courses; and

- (iii) Every institution offering courses in the ANNEXURE to this SOP shall be asked to routinely display its statutory approvals, Council recognitions and affiliation particulars, course-wise, prominently in their premises and on their official website.

8. Monitoring and Reporting:-

The Joint Director of Health Services shall submit monthly reports to the respective Directorates detailing institutions identified, inspections conducted and enforcement action taken. The Directorates shall consolidate such reports and report to the Government.

9. Accountability

The Joint Director of Health Services shall be responsible for timely identification, inspection and reporting in accordance with this SOP.

The Registrar, the Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Directorate of Medical Education and Research, Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine and Directorate of Indian Medicine and Homeopathy, and all other authorities concerned, shall extend necessary cooperation to the Joint Director of Health Services for the effective implementation of this SOP.

10. General:-

This SOP shall be read in conjunction with all existing Government instructions on the subject and all applicable statutory provisions.

**DAREZ AHAMED
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

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SECTION OFFICER

KR
29/04/2024

ANNEXURE

G.O. (Ms) No.170, Health and Family Welfare (PME-2) Department, Dated 29.06.2026

Categories of Courses, Statutory Councils and Affiliating Universities

Sl. No.	Category	Broad Courses	National Regulatory / Statutory Council	University Affiliating Body /	State Level Authority
1	Medicine	MBBS and postgraduate medical programmes	National Medical Commission (NMC)	Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University or any other university recognised by the University Grants Commission.	Directorate of Medical Education and Research, Tamil Nadu
2	Dentistry	BDS and postgraduate dental programmes	National Dental Commission (NDC)	Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University or any other university recognised by the University Grants Commission.	Directorate of Medical Education and Research, Tamil Nadu
3	Nursing	Nursing and midwifery programmes at certificate, diploma and degree levels	Indian Nursing Council (INC)	Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University or any other university recognised by the UGC(or) Board of Nursing of the Directorate of Medical Education and Research (for Diploma courses) or Board of Public Health of the Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine (for Auxiliary Nurse Midwife courses).	Tamil Nadu Nurses and Midwives Council
4	Pharmacy	Pharmacy programmes at diploma and degree levels	Pharmacy Council of India (PCI)	Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University or any other university recognised by the University Grants Commission(or) Board of Pharmacy of the Directorate of Medical Education and Research (for Diploma courses).	Directorate of Medical Education and Research, Tamil Nadu

5	Allied and Healthcare	Allied and healthcare programmes including physiotherapy, occupational therapy, optometry, medical laboratory technology, radiography and other notified courses	National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions (NCAHP)	Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University or any other university recognised by the University Grants Commission(or) Board of Paramedical Education of the Directorate of Medical Education and Research (for Diploma courses).	Director, King Institute of Preventive Medicine and Research / Directorate of Medical Education and Research, Tamil Nadu
6	Rehabilitation Sciences	Special Education (across all disability categories), Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, Prosthetics and Orthotics, Clinical and Rehabilitation Psychology, Rehabilitation Therapy, Community Based Rehabilitation, Inclusive Education and other related programmes	Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI)	Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University or any other university recognised by the University Grants Commission.	Directorate of Medical Education and Research, Tamil Nadu
7	Indian Systems of Medicine (Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani)	Programmes in Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani at undergraduate and postgraduate levels	National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM)	Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University or any other university recognised by the University Grants Commission (or) Board of Indian System of Medicine of the Directorate of Indian Medicine and Homeopathy (for Diploma courses)	Directorate of Indian Medicine and Homeopathy, Tamil Nadu

8	Homeopathy	Homeopathy programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate levels	National Commission for Homeopathy (NCH)	Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University or any other university recognised by the University Grants Commission.	Directorate of Indian Medicine and Homeopathy, Tamil Nadu
9	Yoga and Naturopathy	Yoga and Naturopathy programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate levels	No national statutory council; regulated at State level	Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University	Directorate of Indian Medicine and Homeopathy, Tamil Nadu
10	Public Health	Health Inspector Course	No national statutory council; regulated at State level	Tamil Nadu Public Health Board in the case of Government institutions or any other University recognised by the University Grants Commission.	Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Tamil Nadu

Note: The list of courses under each category is illustrative and not exhaustive. Any course falling within the purview of a Statutory Council listed above shall be covered under this SOP, whether or not it is specifically named herein.

DAREZ AHAMED
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

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SECTION OFFICER

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29/06/2026