

**CONFIDENTIAL
URGENT
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER**

No.F. 1-6/2018-PMC/NHSR&C

Government of Pakistan
Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination
3rd Floor Kohsar Block Pakistan Secretariat, Islamabad

Islamabad the 26th April, 2022.

Subject: **RESERVATIONS ABOUT PAKISTAN MEDICAL COMMISSION ACT, 2020.**

Prime Minister's Office vide u.o. No.5(20)/DS(EA-I)/2022 dated 20th April, 2022 has directed to evaluate the concerns of the Sindh Government on PMC / MDCAT related matters and submission of specific recommendations for decision of the Federal Government.

2. Health Department, Government of Sindh vide their d.o. letter dated 15th April, 2022 has conveyed concerns related to PMC / MDCAT (**copy enclosed for ready reference**). The Secretary, Ministry of NHSR&C has directed to obtain report from PMC within two (02) days.

3. It is therefore, requested that to furnish the requisite report within stipulated time line i.e. 02 days positively, for further necessary action.

Enclosed: **As above**

✓
Registrar,
Pakistan Medical Commission,
Maue Area, Sector G-10/4,
Islamabad.

Secretary
Banger
27/4/22


(Muhammad Saeed Awan)
Section Officer (Admn-II)
Ph # 051-9245792

Copy to: Secretary, PMC, Maue Area, Sector G-10/4, Islamabad.



Secretary

Diary No.	2396
Dated	22-4-22
Minister	
AS	
JS (A&F)	✓
JS (D&C)	
JS (Tech.)	
DG (H)	JS
DG (IPW)	
Director (Lit.)	

Plz pu. along with
PM directive received
yesterday
22/4.

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**GOVERNMENT OF SINDH
HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Karachi, Dated 15-04-2022

Subject: **RESERVATIONS ABOUT PAKISTAN MEDICAL COMMISSION
ACT-2020.**

Respected Khwaja Sahib, Assalam O Alaikum,

I hope this letter finds you in the best of health. I am writing to you in pursuance of the decision taken in the meeting held on 13.4.2022 at Chief Minister House Karachi wherein Honorable Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Prime Minister of Pakistan was pleased to direct to convey the reservations of Sindh Province regarding Pakistan Medical Commission Act-2020 to the Ministry of NHS Islamabad for deliberation and consideration.

Sir, it may be noted that earlier Honorable Minister for Health and Population Welfare Department has expressed her reservations against Pakistan Medical Commission Act, 2020 to the then SAPM on Health. Now, I take this opportunity to reiterate some of the reservations of Sindh Province for immediate and necessary action in the matter.

Sir, The PMC Act 2020 has been passed in hurry sans scrutiny and consensus of the provinces and has raised many contradictions. Few of which are given below: -

1. The Pakistan Medical Commission has no provincial representative whereas Health is purely a devolved provincial subject after the 18th Amendment.
2. The PMC under this act has conducted MDCAT entrance exam for students joining medical universities and colleges. The tests have been on the federal curriculum whereas each province has its own boards and curriculum. This has put student's appearing from the provinces at a disadvantage. Furthermore, in 2020 the closing percentage for MDCAT was set at 60 percent that resulted in the deficit of eligible candidates for 1792 seats in Sindh. This deficit was filled by accommodating 1300 students from other provinces at the cost of deserving students of Sindh but still 492 remained unfilled. To make things worse, the pass percentage set by the PMC has been further increased to 65 percent for the new academic year and has resulted in a large number of unfilled seats in Private Medical and Dental Colleges. Hence, Sindh Cabinet approved the proposal of Health Department to lower passing

✓ DG (H)
DS (A-1)

22/4



Secretary

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GOVERNMENT OF SINDH
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Karachi, Dated 15-04 2022

percentage in MDCAT-2021 from 65% to 50% so that the candidates having not less than 50% in MDCAT-2021 are considered as eligible for admission in MBBS and BDS Session 2021-22. The decision of Sindh Cabinet was conveyed to PMC but unfortunately PMC turned down the Sindh Government's request to slash the MDCAT passing percentage for admissions to private medical and dental colleges in the province.

3. It is very ironical that only public medical and dental colleges would be bound to give a minimum of 50 per cent MDCAT weightage for admissions, whereas private colleges had been exempted from this legal obligation. Under the clause, every private college has been granted a freehand to formulate its own policy for admission, including any additional entrance test as provided in Section-18(3) under "Medical and dental colleges admission tests (MDCAT)".

4. The Pakistan Medical Commission (PMC) is yet to become functional. Furthermore, the Honourable High Court of Islamabad has recently declared the appointment of Board and Council null and void and all acts, orders, decisions, etc., passed or approved by the Board and Council have also been declared illegal having no legal effect, unless the same are approved by the newly appointed members of PMC in their upcoming meeting independently with their own reasons and justification.

5. On the directions of Government of Sindh, I request Ministry of National Health Services to intervene into the matter and issue directions to PMC to register the Sindh domiciled students of Public and Private Medical and Dental Universities and Colleges who have secured 50% or more percentage in MDCAT and have been admitted as per the criteria set by the Government of Sindh.

6. All provinces are under considerable constraints as the students are suffering because of the lopsided policies of PMC. A consensual agreement amongst the PMC and the provinces on the issue of MDCAT has become critical for the students and the provinces as well.



Secretary

GOVERNMENT OF SINDH
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Karachi, Dated 15-04-2022

Considering the seriousness of the issue, it is requested that a meeting of all stakeholders may be conveyed by your good office which shall have the representation of all provinces to address the reservations of all provinces and reach an amicable and consensual solution.

Thanks & Regards

(ZULFIQAR ALI SHAH)
SECRETARY HEALTH

Amir Ashraf Khawaja

Federal Health Secretary

Ministry of National Services Regulation And Coordination