The Registrar,
All State Medical Councils in India.

Subject: Enrolment of Medical Practitioners holding recognized medical qualifications under the section 13 (4A) of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 on State Medical Registers.

Sir/Madam,

This is in continuation of this office circular dated 15/9/1981, 02/05/1985, 09/02/1987, 07/1998 and 04/06/2003 on the above subject.

2. Your kind attention is invited to section 13 (4A) and 13 (4B) of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 that were included in the IMC Act, 1956 by the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Act, 2001. These provisions permit an Indian citizen/overseas citizen of India to obtain primary medical qualification (MBBS or its equivalent) from any country outside India which is recognized for enrolment as medical practitioner in that country. Such persons are required to conform to the norms for admission in MBBS course in India as laid down in the Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 1997. For the purpose of enrolment on medical register in India such person is required to qualify the Screening Test conducted by the National Board of Examination. Once such person qualifies the Screening Test, the primary medical qualification obtained by such person is deemed to be the recognized medical qualification for the purposes of the IMC Act for that person. Registration to practice medicine as a registered medical practitioner, as postulated under the scheme of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, is with the State Medical Council and to be made in the State Medical Register. Consequently, section 15 of the IMC Act confers on such person the right for enrolment on the State Medical Register and by the State Medical Council upon satisfaction of fulfillment of all the requirements by any applicant, for seeking such registration. Similarly, grant of provisional registration by the State Medical Council is provided under section 25 (1) of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956.

3. Accordingly, this is to bring to the attention of all the concerned that the holders of primary medical qualifications (MBBS or its equivalent) from any country outside India, which is recognized for enrolment as medical practitioner in that country and who have qualified the Screening Test conducted by the National Board of Examination are required to be mandatorily enrolled on the State Medical Register by the State Medical Council upon satisfaction of fulfillment of all the requirements by any applicant, for seeking such registration. Therefore, State Medical Councils are requested to enroll such medical practitioners on their Registers and thereafter communicate the information of such enrolment to the Medical Council of India in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956. In doing so, the State Medical Councils are advised to necessarily ensure following procedural checks before granting provisional/permanent registration:

(1) That the applicant who has gone abroad from 15.03.2002 to 14.05.2013 had obtained an Eligibility Certificate from the Medical Council of India. Further, those going abroad on or after 15 May 2013 conform to / fulfill all the norms laid down in the Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 1997 for admission in MBBS course;

(2) That the foreign medical qualification obtained by the applicant is recognized for enrolment as medical practitioner in that country and confirmation from the Indian Embassy has been obtained to the effect that the degree awarded by the foreign Medical Institution is recognized for enrolment as medical practitioner in that Country;

(3) That the applicant has qualified the Screening Test conducted by the National Board of Examination;
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(4) That the primary medical qualification obtained by the applicant is either apostilled in accordance with the requirements of Hague Convention of 5 October 1961 Abolishing the Requirement of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents (Apostille Convention) or are duly attested by the Indian Embassy of the foreign nation from which such qualification has been obtained;

(5) That the authenticity of 10+2 marksheet and certificate are verified from the concerned Board.

(6) That the case certificate of Scheduled Case/Scheduled Tribe/ Other Backward Classes is verified in case relaxation of marks, as permitted under the MCI Regulations, is sought.

(7) In so far as grant of provisional registration under section 25(1) of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 is concerned, provision of Regulation 65 of MCI Regulations 2000, shall also be required to be complied with and which provides as under:

"........65. Provisional Registration. – The names of provisionally registered medical practitioners should be borne on a separate list maintained for the purpose and they shall not be included in the State Medical Registers. In order to have a uniform procedure by all State Medical Councils with regard to the list of provisionally registered medical practitioners under section 25, the certificate for provisional registration should be issued in the following proforma:-

Name of Person :
Address :
Qualification :
Date of year of passing examination :
Name of College and University :

4. It may also be noted that the practice of granting direct registration by the Medical Council of India to the Indian citizens who have obtained primary medical qualifications from foreign countries would be stopped with effect from 01.03.2014 and with effect from such date no fresh application would be entertained by the Medical Council of India.

5. All the persons, who have obtained primary medical qualification from foreign country, are also advised to get their names enrolled on the State Medical Register so as to ensure that they are able to avail all the rights and privileges conferred upon by the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956.

6. In case of any clarification/difficulty the Council may be approached by the concerned State Medical Council for advice in the matter.

7. This is issued with the approval of the Competent Authority of the Council.