Polity & Governance · GS - II

Examine the institutional and regulatory gaps that enable unqualified individuals to enter India's healthcare workforce. Suggest measures to strengthen professional accountability and patient safety.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 27/11/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Medical regulation, National Medical Commission, credential verification, institutional accountability, patient safety, digital registries, inter-state coordination, criminal liability

Model Answer

The entry of individuals with forged medical qualifications into healthcare institutions exposes weaknesses in professional verification, recruitment procedures and regulatory coordination. Such cases pose a direct threat to patient safety and public trust.

Institutional gaps

1. **Credential fraud:** Forged degrees and certificates exploit inadequate verification by universities, regulatory bodies and employers.
2. **Fragmented oversight:** Coordination gaps between state medical councils, national regulators and hospital administrations can allow fraudulent registrations or employment.
3. **Recruitment weaknesses:** Contractual appointments may involve inadequate scrutiny of qualifications and professional credentials.
4. **Digital vulnerabilities:** Online circulation of forged certificates and manipulation of records complicate verification.

Measures to strengthen accountability

1. **Centralised verification:** Establish interoperable digital systems to verify medical degrees, registration numbers and recognised qualifications.
2. **Institutional responsibility:** Mandate independent background checks before recruitment and periodic audits of professional credentials.
3. **Regulatory coordination:** Improve information-sharing between the National Medical Commission, state medical councils, universities and hospitals.
4. **Enforcement:** Ensure prompt investigation, cancellation of fraudulent registrations where legally justified and prosecution under applicable criminal laws.
5. **Patient protection:** Strengthen complaint mechanisms, institutional audits and public access to verified practitioner information.

Conclusion

Professional regulation must extend beyond issuing registration certificates to continuous verification and accountability. A transparent, coordinated system is essential to protect patients and preserve the credibility of India's healthcare institutions.

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