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The Hon'ble Supreme Court seeks to clean Delhi :

*Justice **A K Sikri** is on the Bench : 30.04.2016*

Enough Time Given For Fuel Switch: Court

Diesel and petrol taxis will go off the roads from Sunday (01.05.2016) in Delhi as the Supreme Court has refused to extend the April 30 deadline for cabs to either switch to less polluting CNG fuel or stop plying in the capital.

The pleas of the taxi operators' association and individual operators for an extension failed to move the bench of Chief Justice T S Thakur and Justices **AK Sikri** and R Banumathi that said the court -which has been making efforts since 1998 to clean Delhi's air -has granted several extensions for the **switch to CNG**.

Court : Nothing is working . Why ?

Despite odd – even... ban on registration of diesel cars and SUVs with engine of 2000cc capacity or more or ban on entry of trucks... why is the pollution level not decreasing ; what is the solution the SC wondered on Saturday (30.04.2016) .

adapted from

May 01 2016 : The Times of India (Delhi)

Amit Anand Choudhary

Capitation fee is illegal, rules SC : 02.05.2016

Institutions Can't Indulge In Profiteering, Admissions Must Be On Merit'

Holding demand of capitation fee by educational institutions illegal, the Supreme Court on Monday 02.05.2016 ruled that commercialisation and exploitation is not permissible in the education sector and institutions must run on `no-profit-no-loss' basis.

A five-judge Constitution bench of Justices A R Dave, **A K Sikri**, R K Agrawal, A K Goel and R Banumathi said the objective of setting up educational institutions must not be to make profit and the government must step in to regulate the sector to promote merit, curb malpractices and secure merit-based admission in a transparent manner.

“Though education is now treated as an `occupation' and, thus, has become a fundamental right guaranteed under Article 19(1) (g) of the Constitution, at the same time shackles are put in so far as this particular occupation is concerned which is termed as noble. Therefore, profiteering and commercialisation are not permitted and no capitation fee can be charged. *The admission of students has to be on merit and not at the whims and fancies of the educational institutions,*“ the Bench said.

: emphasis ours

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May 03 2016 : The Times of India (Delhi)

SC ruling end of the road for MCI : 02.05.2016



The Court said that deep-rooted corruption is prevalent in MCI and its members were also found indulging in unethical practices

Observing that the Medical Council of India MCI had “repeatedly” failed in its duties, and the quality of medical education in the country was at its “lowest ebb”, the Supreme Court on Monday appointed a high-powered committee headed by former CJI R M Lodha to clean up the system by taking over the functions of MCI.

“Medical graduates *lack competence* in performing basic health care tasks. Instances of *unethical practices* continued to grow. The MCI was not able to spearhead any serious reforms in medical education. The MCI neither represented the professional excellence nor its ethos,” said the five-judge Constitution bench. The court asked the oversight committee, also comprising retired comptroller and auditor general alumnus **Vinod Rai** and eminent doctor Shiva Sareen, to oversee all statutory functions under the MCI Act and said policy decisions would require the panel's approval. The order by the five judge Constitution bench, comprising justices **A K Sikri**, A R Dave, R K Agrawal, A K Goel and R Banumathi, signals the end of the road for the Medical Council of India (MCI), which has been in the midst of controversies since its president Ketan Mehta was arrested in a corruption case.

The government has been actively considering scrapping MCI in its present form.

The committee will function till the Centre puts in place a new mechanism for regulation by amending the statute or bringing a new legislation.

The Court said *deeprooted corruption is prevalent in MCI* and its members, coming from commercialised corporate private hospitals, were also found indulging in unethical practices such as carrying out unnecessary diagnostic tests and surgical procedures to extract money from hapless patients.

It said the law needs to be amended as the Centre has no power under the present system to disagree with MCI and give policy directives to the regulatory body .

“The existing system of graduate medical education is **required to be reinvented**. The admission process was not satisfactory as majority of seats in private medical colleges

were being allotted for capitation fee. The system keeps out most meritorious and underprivileged students,” the Bench said.

: emphasis ours

adapted from
The Times of India May 03 2016

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