



## The Karnataka Medical Registration Act, 1961

Act 34 of 1961

Keyword(s):

Medical Council, Notification, Registered Practitioner, Regulation, Rules

Amendment appended: 43 of 2003, 41 of 2024

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# THE KARNATAKA MEDICAL REGISTRATION ACT, 1961

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

**Act 34 of 1961.-** There are different enactments in force in the several areas of the State governing the registration of practitioners of modern system of medicine. As a result of the adaptations made in these enactments, the Mysore Medical Council—constituted under the Mysore Medical Registration Act, 1931, as adapted—is empowered to perform the functions of a Medical Council throughout the State in respect of the several enactments, while the Medical Registers under each enactment are kept separate. Thus there is a single Medical Council and several Medical Registers.

Since under the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 (Central Act No. 102 of 1956) one member has to be elected to the Medical Council of India by the members included in the State Medical Register, it is necessary to have one Medical Register for the entire State.

In the circumstances, it is proposed to have a uniform law relating to registration of practitioners practising the modern system of medicine throughout the State.

(Obtained from file LAW 12 LGN 60.)

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**<sup>1</sup>[KARNATAKA ACT]<sup>1</sup> No. 34 OF 1961**

(First published in the <sup>1</sup>[Karnataka Gazette]<sup>1</sup> on the Thirtieth day of December, 1961.)

**THE <sup>1</sup>[KARNATAKA]<sup>1</sup> MEDICAL REGISTRATION ACT, 1961**

(Received the assent of the President on the Twenty-fifth day of December, 1961).

An Act to consolidate the laws for the registration of medical practitioners of modern scientific system of medicine in the <sup>1</sup>[State of Karnataka]<sup>1</sup>.

WHEREAS it is expedient to consolidate the laws for the registration of medical practitioners of modern scientific system of medicine, surgery and obstetrics, other than veterinary medicine and surgery, in the <sup>1</sup>[State of Karnataka]<sup>1</sup>;

BE it enacted by the <sup>1</sup>[Karnataka State]<sup>1</sup> Legislature in the Twelfth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. Adapted by the Karnataka Adaptations of Laws Order 1973 w.e.f. 1.11.1973

**1. Short title, extent and commencement.**—(1) This Act may be called the <sup>1</sup>[Karnataka]<sup>1</sup> Medical Registration Act, 1961.

1. Adapted by the Karnataka Adaptations of Laws Order 1973 w.e.f. 1.11.1973

(2) It extends to the whole of the <sup>1</sup>[State of Karnataka]<sup>1</sup>.

1. Adapted by the Karnataka Adaptations of Laws Order 1973 w.e.f. 1.11.1973

(3) It shall come into force on such <sup>1</sup>[date]<sup>1</sup> as the State Government may, by notification, appoint.

1. Act came into force w.e.f. 22.8.1963 by notification. Text of the notification is at the end of the Act

**2. Definitions.**—In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) “Council” or “Medical Council” means the <sup>1</sup>[Karnataka Medical Council]<sup>1</sup> established under this Act;

(b) “notification” means a notification published in the official Gazette;

(c) “registered practitioner” means any person registered under the provisions of this Act;

(d) “regulations” means regulations made under section 32;

(e) “rules” means rules made under section 31.

**3. Establishment, incorporation and constitution of Council.**—(1) The State Government shall by notification establish a Council to be called “the <sup>1</sup>[Karnataka Medical Council]<sup>1</sup>” for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this Act. Such Council shall be a body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal with power, subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire, hold and dispose of property and to contract and may by the same name sue and be sued.

1. Adapted by the Karnataka Adaptations of Laws Order 1973 w.e.f. 1.11.1973

(2) The Council shall consist of the following fifteen members, namely:—

(a) six members to be elected from amongst themselves by the medical practitioners who are registered under this Act;

(b) two members to be elected from amongst themselves by the members of Faculties of Medicine of the Universities established by any law for the time being in force in the '[State of Karnataka]';

1. Adapted by the Karnataka Adaptations of Laws Order 1973 w.e.f. 1.11.1973

(c) two members to be elected from amongst themselves by such members of the staff of the medical colleges in the '[State of Karnataka]' as are medical practitioners who are registered under this Act; and

1. Adapted by the Karnataka Adaptations of Laws Order 1973 w.e.f. 1.11.1973

(d) five members to be nominated by the State Government, out of whom not more than one shall be from amongst those not registered under this Act.

(3) In making nomination under clause (d) of sub-section (2), the State Government shall have due regard to the claims of women and of other groups of practitioners, representatives of whom have not been elected under clauses (a), (b) and (c).

(4) The President and Vice-President of the Medical Council shall be elected by the members from amongst themselves.

(5) The election of the President and Vice-President and other members shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, be held at such time and place and in such manner as may be prescribed by rules.

**4. Nomination of members in default of election.**—If any of the electorates referred to in section 3 does not, by such date as may be prescribed by rules, elect a person to be a member of the Council, the State Government shall, by notification, nominate to the vacancy a person qualified for election thereto; and the person so nominated shall be deemed to be a member of the Council as if he had been duly elected by the said electorate.

**5. Term of Office.**—The President, Vice-President and other members of the Medical Council shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, hold office for a term of five years from the date of their nomination or election or until their successors have been duly nominated, or elected, whichever is longer, and shall be eligible for re-nomination, or re-election, as the case may be.

**6. Vacancies.**—Upon the death, resignation or vacation of office of any member of the Medical Council, another person shall be appointed a member of the Medical Council in his place by nomination or election, as the case may be, in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 3, and such person shall hold office for the remainder of the period for which the member in whose place he is appointed was nominated or elected.

**7. Disqualifications.**—A person shall be disqualified for being chosen as and for being a member of the Medical Council,—

(a) if he has been sentenced by a criminal court for an offence involving moral turpitude and punishable with imprisonment for a term exceeding three months, such

sentence not having been subsequently reversed, quashed or remitted, unless he has, by order, which the State Government is hereby empowered to make in this behalf, been relieved from the disqualification arising on account of such sentence;

- (b) if he is an undischarged insolvent;
- (c) if he is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court;
- (d) if he is a whole time officer or servant of the Council.

**8. Disabilities for continuing as member.**—If any member, during the period for which he has been nominated or elected,—

- (a) absents himself, without excuse, sufficient in the opinion of the Medical Council, from three consecutive ordinary meetings of the Council; or
- (b) in the case of a member elected under clause (b) of sub-section (2) of section 3, ceases to be a member of the Faculty of Medicine of the University concerned; or
- (c) in the case of a member elected under clause (a) or (c) of sub-section (2) of section 3, ceases to be a registered practitioner; or
- (d) becomes subject to any of the disqualifications mentioned in section 7,

-the State Government shall declare his office to be vacant.

**9. Time and place of meeting and procedure at meetings of Council.**—The Medical Council shall make such regulations as may be necessary with respect to the time and place of the meeting of the Medical Council and the mode of summoning the same. In the absence of any regulation as to the summoning of a meeting of the Medical Council, it shall be lawful for the President to summon a meeting at such time and place as to him shall seem expedient by letter addressed to each member; and at every meeting, in the absence of the President, the Vice-President and in the absence of both, some other member to be chosen from the members present, shall act as President; and all acts of the Medical Council shall be decided by the votes of the majority of the members present at any meeting the total number present being not less than eight, and at all such meetings the President for the time being shall, in addition to his vote as a member of the Medical Council, have a casting vote in case of any equality of votes.

**10. Validity of proceedings.**—(1) No disqualification, or defect in the election or nomination of any person acting as a member of the Medical Council or as the President or Vice-President or presiding authority of a meeting shall be deemed to vitiate any act or proceeding of the Medical Council in which such person has taken part.

(2) No act done by the Council shall be questioned on the ground merely of the existence of any vacancy in, or any defect in the constitution of the Council.

**11. Registrar and officers.**—(1) The Medical Council shall appoint a Registrar, and may from time to time grant leave to the Registrar and appoint a person to act in his place. Any order of the Medical Council appointing or dismissing a Registrar or appointing to act as Registrar for a period which exceeds or is likely to exceed the period which the State Government may, from time to time direct, shall be subject to the previous approval of the State Government. The Registrar and any person appointed to act as Registrar shall be paid by the Medical Council such salary and allowances as it

may from time to time determine. Any person duly appointed to act as Registrar shall be deemed to be Registrar for all the purposes of this Act. The Medical Council may also appoint such other officers and servants as may be necessary for the purposes of this Act.

(2) The Registrar or any other officer or servant appointed under this section shall be deemed to be a public servant within the meaning of section 21 of the Indian Penal Code.

**12. Register.**—The Registrar shall keep a register of medical practitioners in such form as may be prescribed by rules, in accordance with the provisions of this Act. It shall be the duty of the Registrar under the orders of the Medical Council to keep the register correct and from time to time to enter any necessary alterations in the addresses of persons registered and to enter any additional qualifications which any registered person may have obtained subsequent to his registration, and to strike off the names of all registered persons who have died.

**13. Registration of Medical Practitioners.**—(1) Every person who holds any of the medical qualifications included in the Schedules to the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 (Central Act 102 of 1956), may apply to the Registrar giving a correct description of his qualifications, with the dates on which they were granted, and present his degree, diploma or licence along with a fee of fifteen rupees for being registered under this Act. The Registrar shall if satisfied that the applicant is entitled to be registered, enter his name in the register:

Provided that the Registrar shall on application and on payment of a fee of two rupees enter the names of medical practitioners registered under any of the enactments repealed by section 34 and included in the registers maintained in accordance with the provisions of the said repealed enactments as adapted by the Mysore Adaptation of Laws Order, 1956.

(2) The Medical Council may refuse to permit the registration of any person who has been convicted of a cognizable offence as defined in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Central Act V of 1898), or any other law for the time being in force, or who after due inquiry has been held guilty by the '[Karnataka Medical Council]'<sup>1</sup> or by the Medical Council of any other State in India of infamous conduct in any professional respect.

<sup>1</sup>. Adapted by the Karnataka Adaptations of Laws Order 1973 w.e.f. 1.11.1973

**14. Appeals against decision of Registrar.**—(1) An appeal against the decision of the Registrar respecting a first registration or any subsequent alteration shall be heard and determined by the Medical Council in accordance with rules made by the State Government.

(2) Any entry in the register which shall be proved to the satisfaction of the Medical Council to have been fraudulently or incorrectly made may be deleted from the register under the orders of the Medical Council.

**15. Removal of Medical Practitioner's name from register for misconduct.**—(1) If a medical practitioner has been, after due inquiry by the Medical Council, found guilty of any misconduct, the Medical Council may,-

- (a) issue a letter of warning addressed to such medical practitioner, or
- (b) direct the name of such medical practitioner,-
  - (i) to be removed from the register for such period as may be specified in the direction, or
  - (ii) to be removed from the register without specifying the period of such removal.

**Explanation.**—For the purposes of this section “misconduct” shall mean,-

- (a) the conviction of the medical practitioner by a criminal court for an offence which involves moral turpitude and which is cognizable as defined in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Central Act V of 1898), or any other law for the time being in force;
- (b) any conduct which, in the opinion of the Medical Council is infamous in relation to the medical profession.

(2) The Medical Council may, at any subsequent date, if it thinks fit, and shall on a decision to that effect of the Central Government under sub-section (2) of section 24 of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, direct that any name so removed shall be re-entered.

**16. Medical Council to have powers of Civil Courts.**—In holding inquiries under this Act, the Medical Council shall have the same powers as are vested in Civil Courts under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (Central Act V of 1908), when trying a suit, in respect of the following matters, namely:—

- (a) enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him on oath;
- (b) compelling the production of documents;
- (c) issuing of commissions for the examination of witnesses.

**17. Inquiries to be deemed to be judicial proceedings.**—All inquiries under this Act shall be deemed to be judicial proceedings within the meaning of sections 193 and 228 of the Indian Penal Code.

**18. Assessor to Medical Council.**—(1) For the purpose of advising the Medical Council on questions of law arising in inquiries before it, there shall, in all such inquiries, be an assessor to the Medical Council who has been for not less than ten years an advocate of a High Court.

(2) Where an assessor advises the Medical Council on any question of law, he shall do so in the presence of every party, or person representing a party to the inquiry who appears thereat, or if the advice is tendered after the Medical Council has begun to deliberate as to their findings, every such party or person as aforesaid shall be informed what advice the assessor has tendered. Such party or person shall also be informed, if in any case the Medical Council does not accept the advice of the assessor on any such question as aforesaid.

(3) Any assessor under this section may be appointed either generally or for any particular inquiry or class of inquiries and shall be paid such remuneration as the Medical Council with the approval of the State Government may determine.



**19. Renewal of registration.**—(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 13, each medical practitioner shall pay to the Medical Council on or before the thirty-first day of December of every year, a renewal fee of two rupees for the continuance of his name in the register.

(2) If the renewal fee is not paid before the due date, the Registrar shall remove the name of the defaulter from the register:

Provided that the name so removed may be re-entered in the register on payment of the renewal fee in such manner and subject to such conditions, as may be prescribed by rules.

**20. Qualified Practitioners Certificate.**—(1) The expression “legally qualified medical practitioner”, or “duly qualified medical practitioner”, or any words importing a person recognized by law as a medical practitioner or member of the medical profession, shall mean a medical practitioner registered under this Act or a medical practitioner whose name is for the time being borne on the Indian Medical Register maintained under the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 (Central Act 102 of 1956).

(2) A certificate required by any Act from any medical practitioner or medical officer shall be valid, if the person signing the same shall have been registered under this Act or his name shall have been borne on the Indian Medical Register referred to in sub-section (1).

**21. Persons entitled to hold certain appointments.**—A person whose name is for the time being borne on the Indian Medical Register maintained under the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 (Central Act 102 of 1956), shall be eligible to hold any appointment as a physician, surgeon or other medical officer in any dispensary, hospital, infirmary or lying-in-hospital, or in any public establishment, body or institution, where the modern scientific system of medicine is practised.

**22. Notice of death.**—Every Registrar of Deaths on receiving notice of the death of a medical practitioner registered under this Act shall forthwith transmit by post to the Registrar appointed under this Act a certificate under his own hand of such death with the particulars of time and place of death and may charge the cost of such certificate and transmission as an expense of his office.

**23. Exemption from serving on inquests, etc.**—Notwithstanding anything in any other law for the time being in force, every person who shall be registered under this Act shall be exempt, if he so desires, from serving on any inquest or as a juror under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Central Act V of 1898).

**24. Fees payable to members.**—There shall be paid to the members of the Medical Council such fees for attendance and such reasonable travelling expenses as shall from time to time be allowed by the Medical Council and approved by the State Government.

**25. Disposal of fees.**—All moneys received by the Medical Council as fees under this Act shall be applied for the purposes of this Act in accordance with such rules as may be made in this behalf by the State Government.

**26. Publication of list of practitioners.**—(1) The Registrar shall every year on or before the thirtieth day of June publish in the Official Gazette a correct list of the names

and qualifications of all practitioners entered in the register on the first day of January of that year.

(2) A copy of the list published under sub-section (1) shall be evidence in all courts and in judicial or quasi-judicial proceedings that the persons therein specified are registered according to the provisions of this Act, and the absence of the name of any person from such copy shall be evidence, until the contrary is proved that such person is not registered according to the provisions of this Act:

Provided that in the case of any person whose name does not appear in such copy, a certified copy under the hand of the Registrar of the entry of the name of such person on the register shall be evidence that such person is registered under the provisions of this Act.

**27. Elections to be held by distributive vote.**—All elections under this Act shall be held according to the distributive system of voting.

**Explanation.**—Distributive system of voting means a system of voting in which every voter shall be entitled to give as many votes as there are seats to be filled:

Provided that no voter shall give more than one vote to any one candidate:

Provided further that no voting paper shall be deemed to be valid unless the voter has recorded all the votes which he is entitled to give.

**28. Penalties.**—Whoever falsely pretends to be registered under this Act or not being registered under this Act uses in connection with his name or title any words or letters representing that he is so registered shall, whether any person is actually deceived by such pretence or representation or not, be punished in the case of a first conviction with fine which may extend to three hundred rupees and in the case of subsequent conviction with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees.

**29. Protection of action taken in good faith.**—No suit or other legal proceeding shall lie against the State Government or the Medical Council or any officer or servant of the State Government or Medical Council for anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done under this Act.

**30. Jurisdiction of civil courts.**—No act done in the exercise of any power conferred by or under this Act on the State Government or the Council or the Registrar shall be questioned in any civil court.

**31. Power to make rules.**—(1) The State Government, after previous publication, may by notification make rules to carry out the purposes of this Act.

(3) Every rule made under this section shall be laid as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of the State Legislature while it is in session for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session in which it is so laid or the session immediately following, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so however that any such

modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

**32. Regulations.**—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act and of the rules made under section 31, the Medical Council may, with the previous approval of the State Government, make regulations generally to carry out the provisions of this Act.

(2) All regulations made by the Medical Council under this Act shall be published in the official Gazette.

(3) It shall be lawful for the State Government by notification to cancel or alter any regulation made under this Act.

**33. Control.**—(1) If at any time it shall appear to the State Government that the Council has failed to exercise, or has exceeded or abused any of the powers conferred upon it by or under this Act, or has failed to perform any of the duties imposed upon it by or under this Act, the State Government may, if it considers such failure, excess or abuse to be of a serious character, notify the particulars thereof to the Council, and if the Council fails to remedy such default, excess or abuse, within such time as the State Government may fix in this behalf, the State Government may dissolve the Council and cause all or any of the powers and duties of the Council to be exercised and performed by such person and for such period as it may think fit and thereupon the funds and property of the Council shall vest in the State Government for the purpose of this Act until a new Council shall have been constituted under section 3.

(2) When the State Government has dissolved the Council under sub-section (1), it shall take steps as soon as may be convenient to constitute a new Council under section 3 and thereupon the property and funds referred to in sub-section (1) shall revest in the Council so constituted.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, rules or regulations, if, at any time, it shall appear to the State Government that the Council or any other authority empowered to exercise any of the powers or to perform any of the functions under this Act, has not been validly constituted or appointed, the State Government may cause any of such powers or functions to be exercised or performed by such person in such manner and for such period not exceeding six months and subject to such conditions as the State Government thinks fit.

**34. Repeal and savings.**—The Bombay Medical Act, 1912 (Bombay Act VI of 1912), as in force in the <sup>1</sup>[Belgaum Area]<sup>1</sup>, the Medical Registration Act, 1348F. (Hyderabad Act I of 1348 Fasli), as in force in the <sup>1</sup>[Gulburga Area]<sup>1</sup> the Madras Medical Registration Act, 1914 (Madras Act IV of 1914), as in force in the <sup>1</sup>[Mangalore and Kollegal Area]<sup>1</sup> and the Mysore Medical Registration Act, 1931 (Mysore Act V of 1931), as in force in the Mysore Area, are hereby repealed:

Provided that until the constitution of the Medical Council in accordance with the provisions of this Act, the body functioning as the <sup>1</sup>[Karnataka Medical Council]<sup>1</sup> immediately before the commencement of this Act shall exercise the powers and perform the duties conferred by the provisions of this Act on the Medical Council and casual vacancies in the seats of the members of the Medical Council so functioning shall be filled and all matters in connection with the filling up of such vacancies shall be

regulated in accordance with the provisions governing the filling of such vacancies and regulating such matters in force immediately before the commencement of this Act subject to such modifications of the said provisions as the State Government may by notification make in the said provisions:

Provided that section 6 of the <sup>1</sup>[Karnataka]<sup>1</sup> General Clauses Act, 1899 (<sup>1</sup>[Karnataka]<sup>1</sup> Act III of 1899), shall be applicable in respect of such repeal and sections 8 and 24 of the said Act shall be applicable as if the said enactments had been repealed and re-enacted by this Act.

1. Adapted by the Karnataka Adaptations of Laws Order 1973 w.e.f. 1.11.1973

**35. Power to remove difficulties.**—(1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act in consequence of the transition to the said provisions from the provisions of the Acts in force immediately before the commencement of this Act, the State Government, may by notification make such provisions as appear to it to be necessary or expedient for removing the difficulty.

(2) Every notification issued under sub-section (1) shall, as soon as may be after it is issued, be laid before both Houses of the State Legislature.

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#### NOTIFICATION

**Bangalore, dated 19th August, 1963 [No. PLM 251 MDA 61]**

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3) of Section 1 of the Mysore Medical Registration Act, 1961 (Mysore Act 34 of 1961), the Government of Mysore hereby appoints the 22nd August 1963 as the date on which the provisions of the said Act shall come into force.

By Order and in the name of the  
Governor of Karnataka,

(L.G. DESAI)  
Under Secretary to Government,  
P.H., L. & MI. A.D.

(Published in the Karnataka Gazette, Part IV-2C(ii), dated 5th September, 1963 at page. 656.)

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**KARNATAKA ACT NO. 43 OF 2003  
THE KARNATAKA MEDICAL REGISTRATION  
(AMENDMENT) ACT, 2003**

**Arrangement of Sections**

**Sections:**

1. Short title and commencement
2. Amendment of section 3
3. Amendment of section 5
4. Amendment of section 6
5. Amendment of section 8
6. Amendment of section 9
7. Amendment of section 13
8. Amendment of section 15
9. Amendment of section 16
10. Amendment of section 18
11. Amendment of section 19
12. Amendment of section 23
13. Amendment of section 26

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

It is considered necessary to amend the Karnataka Medical Registration Act, 1961,-

- (i) to define "teachers" and "teachers of University" and to provide for election of four members to the Medical Council jointly from both these categories;
- (ii) to provide that out of 4 persons to be nominated by the State Government one shall be from amongst

the Karnataka Dental Council, Pharmacy Council, Nursing Council and Ayurvedic and Homeopathy Council by rotation for a period of one year, who shall have no right to vote in the meeting of the Medical Council;

- (iii) to provide that no election shall be held to fill up a vacancy in the office of an elected member if the remainder of the period is less than six months;
- (iv) to provide for fixing of fees by rules;
- (v) to provide for removal of a medical practitioner on the ground of negligence, incompetence and violation of medical ethics also;
- (vi) to empower the medical council to inspect medical institutions;
- (vii) to require a medical practitioner to produce a certificate for having attended a Continuing Medical Education programme before seeking renewal of registration.

Certain other incidental and consequential changes are also made.

Hence the Bill.

[LA Bill No. 15 of 2003]

(Entry 26 of List-III of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India)

**KARNATAKA ACT NO. 43 OF 2003**

*(First Published in the Karnataka Gazette Extra-ordinary on the  
16th day of September, 2003)*

**THE KARNATAKA MEDICAL REGISTRATION  
(AMENDMENT) ACT, 2003**

*(Received the assent of the Governor on the 12th day of  
September, 2003)*

An Act to amend the Karnataka Medical Registration Act, 1961.

Whereas, it is expedient further to amend the Karnataka Medical Registration Act, 1961 (Karnataka Act 34 of 1961) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

Be it enacted by the Karnataka State Legislature in the fifty-fourth year of the Republic of India, as follows:-

**1. Short title and commencement.-** (1) This Act may be called the Karnataka Medical Registration (Amendment) Act, 2003.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the State Government may by notification, appoint and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of the Act.

**2. Amendment of section 3.-** In section 3 of the Karnataka Medical Registration Act, 1961 (Karnataka Act 34 of 1961) (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act),-

(1) in sub-section (2), for clauses (b), (c) and (d) the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(b) four members to be elected from amongst themselves by the “teachers” and “teachers of the University” as defined in clauses (m) and (n) respectively of section 2 of the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences Act, 1994 (Karnataka Act 44 of 1994) and who are registered under this Act.

(c) four members to be nominated by the State Government from among registered practitioners.

(d) one member to be nominated by the State Government from amongst the members of the Karnataka State Dental Council, the Karnataka Pharmacy Council, the Karnataka Nursing Council, the Karnataka Ayurvedic and Homoeopathy Council, by rotation for a period of one year.

(2) in sub-section (3),

(i) for the word, brackets and letter "clause (d)" the word, brackets and letter "clause (c)" shall be substituted;

(ii) for the words, brackets and letters "clauses (a), (b) and (c)" the words, brackets and letters "clauses (a) and (b)" shall be substituted;

(3) in sub-section (4), for the words "by the members from amongst themselves" the words, brackets and letter "by the members other than a member referred to in clause (d), from amongst themselves" shall be substituted.

**3. Amendment of section 5.-** In section 5 of the principal Act, after the words, "members of the Medical Council" the words, brackets, letter and figures "other than a member referred to in clause (d) of sub-section (2) of section 3" shall be inserted.

**4. Amendment of section 6.-** In section 6 of the principal Act, the following proviso shall be inserted at the end, namely:-

"Provided that where a vacancy has arisen in the office of the elected member of the Council and the remainder period of the term of office is less than six months no election shall be held to fill up such vacancy."

**5. Amendment of section 8.-** In section 8 of the principal Act,-



- (i) in clause (b), for the words “ceases to be a member of the faculty of medicine of the University concerned” the words “ceases to be a teacher or as the case may be, teacher of the University or ceases to be a registered practitioner” shall be substituted;
- (ii) in clause (c), for the words, brackets and letter “clause (a) or (c)” the word, bracket and letter “clause (a)” shall be substituted.

**6. Amendment of section 9.-** In section 9 of the principal Act, the following proviso shall be inserted at the end, namely:-

“Provided that the member nominated under clause (d) of sub-section (2) of section 3 shall participate in meeting of the Medical Council but shall not have a right to vote in such meeting.”

**7. Amendment of section 13.-** In section 13 of the principal Act,-

- (a) in sub-section (1),
  - (i) for the words “a fee of fifteen rupees” the words “prescribed fee” shall be substituted;
  - (ii) in the proviso, for the words “a fee of two rupees” the words “a prescribed fee” shall be substituted.

(b) in sub-section (2), for the words, figures and bracket the Code of Criminal Procedure 1898 (Central Act V of 1898)” the words, figures and brackets “the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (Central Act 2 of 1974)” shall be substituted.

**8. Amendment of section 15.-** In section 15 of the principal Act,-

(1) in the heading for the words “for misconduct” the words “for misconduct etc.,” shall be substituted.

- (2) in sub-section (1),
- (i) for the words, "guilty of any misconduct" the words "guilty of any misconduct, negligence, incompetence or violation of code of Medical ethics" shall be substituted;
  - (ii) in the explanation, for the words, figures and brackets "the Code of Criminal Procedure 1898 (Central Act V of 1898,)" the words, figures and brackets "the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (Central Act 2 of 1974)" shall be substituted.

**9. Amendment of section 16.-** In section 16 of the principal Act, after clause (c), the following clause shall be inserted, namely,-

"(d) inspection of Medical Institutions such as Hospital, Nursing Homes, consultation rooms, Diagnostic Centres, Polyclinics, Clinics, Health and Care Institutions by whatever name called including Government Hospitals, carrying Medical Practice:

Provided that no such inspection of a private or Government hospital or a teaching hospital of a medical college shall be made without a written compliant".

**10. Amendment of section 18.-** In section 18 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), for the words, "there shall, in all such inquiries, be an assessor to the Medical Council" the words "the Medical Council may in such inquiries take the assistance of an assessor" shall be substituted.

**11. Amendment of section 19.-** In section 19 of the principal Act,-

(1) in sub-section (1), for the words "on or before the thirty first day of December of every year a renewal fee of two rupees" the words "a prescribed fee on or before such date as may be prescribed" shall be substituted.

(2) after sub-section (1), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:-

“Provided that the renewal of registration shall not be done unless the registered Medical Practitioner produces a certificate for having attended a Continuing Medical Education programme for not less than one hundred hours conducted by an organisation or institution recognised by the Medical Council.

**12. Amendment of section 23.-** In section 23 of the principal Act, for the words, figures and brackets” the Code of Criminal Procedure 1898 (Central Act V of 1898).” the words, figures and bracket “the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (Central Act 2 of 1974) shall be substituted.

**13. Amendment of section 26.-** In section 26 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), for the words “in the official Gazette” the words “on the notice board in the office of the Medical Council” shall be substituted.

**T.N. Chaturvedi**  
Governor of Karnataka

By Order and in the name of the  
Governor of Karnataka

**M.R. Hegde**  
Secretary to Government,  
Department of Parliamentary  
Affairs and Legislation.

# KARNATAKA ACT NO. 41 OF 2024

## THE KARNATAKA MEDICAL REGISTRATION AND CERTAIN OTHER LAW (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2024

### Arrangement of Sections

#### **Sections:**

1. [Short title and commencement](#)
2. [Amendment of the Karnataka Act 34 of 1961](#)
3. [Amendment of the Karnataka Act 01 of 2009](#)
4. [Power to remove difficulties](#)

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

**Amendment Act 41 of 2024:-** It is considered necessary further to amend the Karnataka Medical Registration Act, 1961 (Karnataka Act 34 of 1961) and the Karnataka Prohibition of Violence Against Medicare Service Personnel and Damage to Property in Medicare Service Institutions Act, 2009 (Karnataka Act 01 of 2009) to provide for,-

- (i) the process of election of new members to the council;
- (ii) the fixation of time limit for the term of office of the President or the Vice- President of the council;
- (iii) the time, place and procedure of meeting of the council;
- (iv) the appointment of the Deputy registrar to the Council;
- (v) the mandatory Registration of medical practitioner to the council
- (vi) the procedure for conducting inquiries;
- (vii) prohibition of intentional insult of medicare service personnel in a medicare service institution;
- (viii) fixing the limit for penalty amount and extending the duration of imprisonment;
- (ix) the investigation and trail of cases;
- (x) the power to make rules to carry out the purposes of this Act; and
- (xi) certain other consequential amendments are also made.

Hence, the Bill.

[L.A. Bill No.37 of 2024, File No. SAMVYASHAE 34 SHASANA 2024]

[Entry 1 and 6 of List II and 26 of List III of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India.]

[Published in Karnataka Gazette Extra-ordinary No. 396 in part-IVA dated:16.08.2024]

# KARNATAKA ACT NO. 41 OF 2024

(First published in the Karnataka Gazette Extra-ordinary on the 16th day of August, 2024)

## THE KARNATAKA MEDICAL REGISTRATION AND CERTAIN OTHER LAW (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2024

(Received the assent of the Governor on the 15th day of August, 2024)

An Act further to amend the Karnataka Medical Registration Act, 1961 and the Karnataka Prohibition of Violence Against Medicare Service Personnel and Damage to Property in Medicare Service Institutions Act, 2009.

Whereas, it is expedient further to amend the Karnataka Medical Registration Act, 1961 (Karnataka Act 34 of 1961) and the Karnataka Prohibition of Violence Against Medicare Service Personnel and Damage to Property in Medicare Service Institutions Act, 2009 (Karnataka Act 01 of 2009) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

Be it enacted by the Karnataka State Legislature in the Seventy fifth year of the Republic of India as follows:-

**1. Short title and commencement.-** (1) This Act may be called the Karnataka Medical Registration and certain other law (Amendment) Act, 2024.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

**2. Amendment of the Karnataka Act 34 of 1961.-** In the Karnataka Medical Registration Act, 1961 (Karnataka Act 34 of 1961),-

(i) in section 3, for sub section (3), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"(3) In making nomination under clause (d) of sub-section (2), the State Government shall have due regard to the claims of women and of other social groups of practitioners, representatives of whom have not been elected under clauses (a), (b) and (c). The process of nomination shall be completed within fifteen days of completion of elections."

(ii) after section 3, the following new section shall be inserted, namely:-

**“3A.- Process of election.-** The process of election of new members to the Council from the respective categories under clause (a), (b) and (c) of sub- section (2) of section 3 shall be completed three months before the completion of the term of the existing members."

(iii) for section 5, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

**“5. Term of office.-** (1) The President, Vice-President and other members of the Medical Council other than a member referred to in clause (d) of sub-section (2) of section 3 shall, subject to the provision of this Act, hold office for a term of five years from the date of their nomination or election.

(2) A person who has held the office of the President or the Vice President for two terms shall not be eligible to be elected to the same office.”

(iv) for section 9, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

**“9. Time and Place of meeting and procedure at meeting of Council.-** (1) The Medical Council shall make such regulations as may be necessary with respect to the time and place of the meeting of the Medical Council and the mode of summoning the same. In the absence of any regulation as to the summoning of a meeting of the Medical Council, it shall be lawful for the President to summon a meeting at such time and place as to him shall seem expedient by letter addressed to each member; and at every meeting, in the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall act as President; in the absence of both president and vice-president, any other member chosen among other members shall act as the president and all acts of the Medical Council shall be decided by the votes of the majority of the members present; and at any meeting the total number present being not less than eight, and at all such meetings the President for the time being shall, in addition to his vote as a member of the Medical Council, have a casting vote in case of any equality of votes:

Provided that the member nominated under clause (d) of sub-section (2) of section 3 shall participate in meeting of the Medical Council but shall not have a right to vote in such meeting.

(2) In case there is no quorum, the meeting shall be adjourned and for the adjourned meeting the quorum shall be of four members”.

(v) for section 11, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

**“11. Registrar and Officers.-** (1) The Medical Council shall appoint a Registrar and Deputy Registrar for a term of three years. In the absence of the Registrar, the Deputy Registrar shall act in his place.

(2) Any order of the Medical Council appointing or dismissing a Registrar or Deputy Registrar or appointing to act as registrar or Deputy Registrar shall be subject to the previous approval of the State Government.

(3) The Registrar and Deputy Registrar shall be paid by the Medical Council such salary and allowances as it may from time to time determine.

(4) The Medical Council may also appoint such other officers and servants as may be necessary for the purposes of this Act.

(5) The Registrar or any other officer or servant appointed under this section shall be deemed to be a public servant within the meaning of section 2(28) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023”.

(vi) after section 13, the following shall be inserted, namely:-

**“13A. Prohibition to practice.-** (1) No person shall practice/represent himself as a medical practitioner unless he has registered with the Council as per section 13.

(2) The Council may either suo-moto or on a complaint by any person, take cognizance of the presence of a quack within the State and lodge complaint through Registrar with the Jurisdictional Police.”

(vii) after section 16, the following new section shall be inserted, namely:-

**"16-A Procedure for conducting inquiries.-** The procedure for conducting inquiries shall be as prescribed by rules.”

(viii) in section 19,-

(a) for sub-section (1), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"(1) All the existing medical practitioner enrolled in the State Medical Register, not having the registration number as prescribed by National Medical Commission shall submit an application to National Medical Commission within a period prescribed by notification by National Medical Council and obtain the new Registration Number as a onetime measure and the licence so obtained shall be valid for period of five years from the date of issuance. For the purpose of updating of licence of such medical practitioner, no fee shall be charged by the Commission. Further renewal of registration shall be as per rules and guidelines prescribed by National Medical Commission.”; and

(b) in sub-section (2) the first proviso and the explanation shall be omitted.

(ix) in section 21, after the words "where the modern scientific system of medicine is practised" the words "or regulated" shall be inserted.

(x) section 22 shall be omitted.

(xi) for section 26, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

**"26. Publication of list of practitioners.-** (1) The Registrar shall maintain a dynamic online as well as physical list of the medical practitioners updated on daily basis on the official website and inform the National Medical Commission. The same shall be electoral list for all elections as may be prescribed.

(2) A certified copy of the list published under sub-section (1) shall be evidence in all Courts and in judicial or quasi-judicial proceedings that the persons therein specified are registered according to the provisions of this Act.”

(xii) for section 28, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

**"28. Penalties for quackery.-** Whoever falsely pretends to be registered under this Act or not being registered under this Act uses in connection with his name or title any words or letters representing that he is so registered shall, whether any person is actually deceived by such pretence or representation or not, be punished in the case of a first conviction with fine which extend ten thousand rupees and in the case of subsequent conviction with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees.”



**3. Amendment of the Karnataka Act 01 of 2009.-** In the Karnataka Prohibition of Violence Against Medicare Service Personnel and Damage to Property in Medicare Service Institutions Act, 2009 (Karnataka Act 01 of 2009),-

(i) in section 2,-

(A) for clause (a) the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(a) "Intentional Insult" means, use of words, figures or gestures with an intention to insult, humiliate, disgrace, annoy or abuse a medicare service personnel either directly addressed to him or through social media or through unauthorised audio and video recording and photographing in connection with his professional duty.

(a1)“Medicare service institutions” means all institutions providing medicare service to people having facilities for treatment to the persons suffering from sickness, injury or infirmity whether of body or mind including institutions under the control of Central or State Government or local bodies, all private hospitals /maternity homes/private nursing homes / convalescent homes etc”.

(B) in clause (b) in item (v) the words “employed and working in medicare service institutions” shall be omitted

(C) after item (v) the following shall be inserted, namely:-

“(vi) The employees working in the medicare service institutions including security guards, managerial staff, ambulance drivers and helpers”.

(ii) after section 3, the following shall be inserted, namely:-

**“3A. Prohibition of Intentional insult.-** Any intentional insult of medicare service personnel in a medicare service institution is prohibited.”

(iii) for section 4, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

**“4. Penalty.-** (1) Any person who commits any act in contravention of section 3, shall be punished with imprisonment for a period of not less than three years which may extend upto seven years and also with fine which shall not be less than rupees twenty five thousand and not more than rupees two lakhs.

(2) Any person who commits any act in contravention of section 3A, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to three months or with fine which may extend to rupees ten thousand.”

(iv) after section 4 so substituted, the following shall be inserted, namely:-

**“4A. Abetment of offences.-** whoever abets the offences under sections 3 and 3A shall be punished with the same punishment provided for the offence.

(v) for section 5 the following shall be substituted, namely:-

**“5. Cognisance of offence.-** Any offence committed under sections 3, 3A and 4A shall be cognizable and non-bailable.

**5A. Investigation, trial, etc.-** Without prejudice to the provisions contained in the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (Central Act 46 of 2023),-

(1) Any case registered under this Act shall be investigated by a police officer not below the rank of an Inspector and the investigation of such cases shall be completed within a period of sixty days from the date of registration of First Information Report;

(2) In every inquiry or trial of a case under this Act, the proceedings shall be held as expeditiously as possible, and in particular, when the examination of witnesses has once begun, the same shall be continued from day to day until all the witnesses in attendance have been examined, unless the court finds the adjournment of the same beyond the following days to be necessary for reasons to be recorded, and an endeavour shall be made to ensure that the inquiry or trial is concluded within a period of one year:

Provided that where the trial is not concluded within the said period, the court shall record the reasons for not having done so.

Provided further that the said period may be extended by such a further period, for reasons to be recorded, but not exceeding six months at a time.

(3) For the purpose of providing speedy trial, the Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate of every Districts and Chief metropolitan Magistrate of Bengaluru urban district is the competent court to try the offences under this Act.

(4) The court shall, while trying the offender under this Act, not insist for corroboration of the evidence of victim or manager or owner of the Medicare service institutions as the case may be while holding the accused guilty of the offence unless it sees valid reasons to be recorded in writing for corroboration.”

(vi) after section 7, the following shall be inserted, namely:-

**“8. Power to make rules.-** (1) The State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette make rules to carryout the purposes of this Act.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing powers, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely-

- (a) deployment of adequate security personnel;
- (b) Installation of CCTV cameras and other safety and security devises/ equipments;
- (c) arrangement of control rooms and alarm system;
- (d) display of important informations addressing stakeholders;
- (e) evolving protocols as to the manner in which doctors, healthcare

professionals, medical students, police etc. are to be protected; and

(f) any other matter which is required to be or may be prescribed under this Act.

(3) Every rule made under this Act shall be laid as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of the State Legislature while it is in session for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions and if before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall, from the date on which the modification or annulment is notified have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect as the case may be; so however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without, prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.”

**4. Power to remove difficulties.**-(1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the State Government may, by order, published in the Official Gazette, make such provisions, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, as may be necessary or expedient for removing the difficulty:

Provided that, no order under this section shall be made after expiry of two years from the date of commencement of this Act.

(2) Every order made under this section shall, as soon as may be after it is so made, be laid before the House of State Legislature.

By Order and in the name of  
the Governor of Karnataka,

**G. Sridhar**  
Secretary to Government  
Department of Parliamentary Affairs  
and Legislation