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Nilekani's help sought for Medical colleges inspection

SC asks Infosys co-founder to use AI to assist MCI

Ashish Tripathi

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has asked Nandan Nilekani, who co-founded Infosys, to help in finding a technological solution with artificial intelligence, to address the problems arising out of inspections of private medical colleges by the regulator, Medical Council of India.

"There are incessant disputes which reach this court about what actually transpired at inspections of various private medical colleges by the MCI.

Network based solution

"The parties contest virtually every fact that is recorded in an inspection," a bench of Justices S A Bobde and L Nageswara Rao noted.

Supreme Court asked Nilekani to take technical assistance from various IT companies like Wipro, Infosys, Accenture for making suggestions.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appointed as amicus curiae, suggested to the court that a computer network based technological solution which might include artificial intelligence could be considered. He asked the court to appoint an expert in the field like Nilekani.

Sibal's suggestion

MCI's counsel Gaurav Sharma accepted the suggestions put forth by Sibal.

"We accordingly request Nilekani to go into this problem and give concrete suggestions to this court at the earliest," the court ordered.

The court asked Nilekani to take technical assistance from various IT companies like Wipro, Infosys, Accenture for making suggestions.

It directed the MCI to convene a meeting with Nilekani and Sibal within 15 days.

The court also directed Sharma and Sibal to prepare a written note highlighting the problems for Nilekani to deal with and provide solution for the same.

The court put a petition filed by Kerala's Al Azhar Medical College and Super Speciality Hospital for consideration after eight weeks.

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Court seeks help from Nilekani on MCI inspections

Looks for solution to end disputes

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has reached out to entrepreneur Nandan Nilekani to recommend a technological solution to provide a foolproof picture of what actually transpires during the Medical Council of India's inspections of various private medical colleges across the country.

The court is inundated with disputes either by the MCI or by private medical college managements regarding the inspections of these institutions for granting them licence to admit students, etc. The prolonged disputes delay the admission of students.

"There are incessant disputes which reach this court about what actually transpired at inspections of various private medical colleges by the Medical Council of India. The parties contest virtually every fact that is recorded in an inspection," a Supreme Court Bench of Justices S.A. Bobde and L. Nageswara Rao observed in its three-page order pronounced in open court on September 19.

The suggestion was made by senior advocate Kapil Sibal, who is an *amicus curiae* in a petition filed by private

Nandan Nilekani.

medical colleges, including the Al Azhar Medical College and Super Speciality Hospital, located in Kerala. These institutions had been denied permission by the Centre to admit students to MBBS Course for the academic year 2017-18.

The MCI, through advocate Gaurav Sharma, also supported Mr. Sibal.

"We request Mr. Nandan Nilekani to go into this problem and give concrete suggestions to this court at the earliest... the respondent-MCI shall convene a meeting with Mr. Nilekani, Mr. Sibal, learned *amicus curiae* and any other learned counsel who may be interested in the matter, either at New Delhi or any other place in India within a period of 15 days from today. Mr. Sibal shall chair the meeting," the Supreme Couret said in its order.