The National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions Act, 2021: Bridging Education and Practice in Allied Health

Melodynia Marpna*
Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong

Lewaka Plain
Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong

Colleen Sonia Pariat
Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong

Abstract

The Government of India has implemented significant reforms in the Allied and Healthcare Professions through the National Commission for Allied Healthcare and Professions Act, 2021. This act defines ten categories of Allied Healthcare and Professionals, and established regulations for maintenance of education and service standards, central and state registries, and institution assessment. Currently, its main focus is the standardization and registration of allied and healthcare professionals. In April 2025, the Union Ministry introduced the competency-based curriculum for ten professions, outlining guidelines for course content, eligibility criteria, training methods, infrastructure requirement, and career paths. This paper examines how the Act reshapes professional pathways and informs the work of career educators and counsellors.

Keywords: Allied and Healthcare Professional, career, India, NCAHP Act 2021, youths

Introduction

India's youth population is estimated at approximately 371.4 million, representing 27.3 percent of the total population. Youths, defined as individuals aged 15 to 29 years, are considered significant national assets. Effective development of this demographic is essential, as they contribute to innovation and ransformation across healthcare, agriculture, education, and financial services (Department of Youth Affairs, 2023) India has experience rapid reforms across multiple sectors, creating significant opportunities. National health initiatives including the National Health Policy, Ayushman Bharat, and the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana has improved health accessibility and these expanding opportunities call for informed guidance systems to help youth navigate new educational and occupational pathways (Birla, 2025; National Statistics Office, 2025). Despite this advancement,

*Correspondence concerning this article may be addressed to Melodynia Marpna, email: melodyniamarpna@mlcuniv.in

the shortage of health workers still remains as highlighted in the increase demand for healthcare services during the COVID-19 pandemic (Bachmann et al., 2022). This shortage underscores the importance of creating clear educational career pipelines into allied health professions.

In the post-pandemic, there has been a great shift in the demand for healthcare providers in healthcare services because of the realization that healthcare services are beyond doctors and nurses but a teamwork with other allied healthcare professionals or paramedical (Rawekar et al., 2020). This has significantly led to the growth of India's allied and healthcare sector over the past few decades. Other attributes are the advancements in medical technology, increasing health awareness among people, rising income levels, and changing demographic profiles (Arfat et al., 2023). In spite of increasing demand of the Allied and Healthcare Professions, it is important to note that career awareness and guidance remain low for such allied roles.

Allied and healthcare professions like physiotherapy, occupational therapy, medical laboratory technology, etc., play a crucial supportive role in healthcare delivery. However, in India, the education and practice of these professions lacked proper regulation and standardization. Because of this, there is inconsistencies in education quality, lack of a central register of professionals, and absence of standardized codes of ethics (Saraf et al., 2024). This lack of standardization has also created uncertainly about career mobility, recognition and international equivalence.

The National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions(NCAHP) Act 2021, is an Act to provide regulation and to maintain standards of education and services for and by allied and healthcare professionals, for the assessment of institutions, for maintenance of a Central Register and State Register and creation of a system to improve access, research and development and adoption of latest scientific advancement and for matters connected (MoHFW, 2021). The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India, passed the NCAHP Bill on the 28th of March, 2021. The NCAHP Act 2021 has been enacted by the Parliament of India and NCAHP has been constituted with effect from 8th January 2024 (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt of India, 2021). Given the new regulatory environment, career counsellors, educators, and policy actors have an important role in guiding aspirants through emerging role in guiding aspirants through emerging opportunities and qualification frameworks. This paper examines the implication of the NCAHP Act 2021 for structured career development such as educational structures, licensure norms, and career pathways in India's allied and healthcare ecosystem.

Scenario of the Allied Healthcare and Professional: The Past, the Present and the Future.

In 2000, an intercountry consultation on Allied Health (Paramedical) services and Education was held in Thailand with eight countries of the World Health Organization Sout East Asia Regions (SEAR) attended. In this consultation, issues and concerns of the paramedical services were discussed. India reported that unregulated practices were prevalent and courses were not standardized with courses either short term, certificate, diploma and graduate level. This creates confusion for students and career counsellors, and affects career clarity, employability, and professional recognition of allied health workers. The recommendations were the establishment of a policy, standardization of the degree courses and region-specific education initiatives so that there is a retainment of the healthcare workers in the communities (WHO, 2000).

Prior to the Act, a few Professional Association such as the India Dietetics Association (IDA) and the Indian Association of Clinical Psychologists have laid down the minimum criteria for membership (Indian Association of Clinical Psychologists, n.d.). The IDA also included

minimal eligible criteria to apply for the Registered Dietitian Board examination and qualifying it resulted in receiving an RD number and the acknowledgment of the RD board (Indian Dietetic Association, n.d.). However, such fragmented regulation led to fragmented career guidance, making it difficult for practitioners to map out legitimate qualification pathways.

After two decades of the recommendation and unregulated practices, the NCAHP Act 2021 was enacted that regulates and maintain the standards of education and services. There are ten categories of Allied healthcare and Professionals and these are:

1. Medical Laboratory and Life Sciences.
2. Trauma, Burn Care and Surgical/ Anesthesia related technology.
3. Physiotherapy Professional.
4. Nutrition Science Professional.
5. Ophthalmic Sciences Professional
6. Occupational Therapy Professional
7. Community Care, Behavioural Health Sciences and other Professionals .
8. Medical Radiology, Imaging and Therapeutic Technology Professional.
9. Medical Technologists and Physician Associate.

10. Health Information Management and Health Information Professional.

It is important to note that even though Psychologist fall under the purview of the Act, Clinical Psychologist is excluded because it is covered under Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) for Persons with Disability (PWD) (NCAHPA, 2021).

According to the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, the initial steps was the constitution of central and state-level commissions and councils (Arfat et al., 2023) which met with a few challenges. As indicated in Table 1, only 15 states have constituted a State Council, while 11 were requested to rectified since the constitution was not in line with the Act, and 10 states are yet to notify the Central Government. From the 15 states that had constituted, only 8 states created a system and started the registration of the Allied and Healthcare Professionals. Even though the other does not have a system, the Allied and Healthcare Professionals are encouraged to register themselves at the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions.

Table 1.
Status of the Constitution of the State Councils

Status	Number of S&UT	Name of S&UT
Not constituted and not notified	10	Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Haryana, Jharkhand, Ladakh, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Uttarakhand
State Council Constituted	15	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Tripura
Constituted but the State Government were requested to rectify	11	Assam, Bihar, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Dui, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal

Note. S&UT is States and Union Territories.
Source: National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

On April 2025, the Union Health Ministry has launched the competency-based curricula for ten Allied and Healthcare Professionals that will be mandatory implemented from 2026. These include Physiotherapy, Applied Psychology and Behavioural Health, Optometry, Nutrition and Dietetics, Dialysis Therapy Technology and Dialysis Therapy, Radiotherapy Technology, Medical Radiology and Imaging Technology, Anaesthesia and Operation Theatre Technology, Health Information Management and Physician Associate. On October and November 2025, the competency- based curricula for Medical Laboratory Sciences, Occupational Therapy, and Emergency Medical Technologist (Paramedics), Burn Care Technologist and Advance care Paramedic were also launched (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 2025). These curricula included guidelines on the course content, eligibility criteria, methods of training delivery including research and internship and the requirement of the infrastructure. They can be used by career counsellors to guide students in choosing appropriate entry points and advancement routes in the Allied and Healthcare career. Furthermore, the curriculum also included the career pathway (PIB Delhi, 2025). For e.g. a Laboratory cadre or someone working in a Clinical or Diagnostic laboratory with a Diploma in Medical Laboratory Science is called a Medical Laboratory Associate. They work under the supervision of a medical laboratory technologist or scientist. If the Laboratory cadre completed a Bachelor's degree in Medical Laboratory Science (BMLS) with internship or a Diploma in Medical Laboratory Science with 5 years of experience, they are called as Medical Laboratory Technologist. They perform routine lab work under the supervision of the Medical Lab Scientist. If the Laboratory cadre completed BMLS with 5 years experience in clinical setting or BMLS with 8 years of experiences or a Master's in Medical Laboratory Science (MMLS), they are called as the Technical Officers. They work collaboratively with Physician and overseeing the work of the Medical Laboratory Associate and Technologist (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 2025). These career pathways bring new clarity for students, training institutions, and counsellors.

NCAHP Act 2021: What and Why?

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) designated the legislature as the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions Act, 2021. An allied health professional is defined as:

"An associate, technician or technologist who is trained to perform technical and practical tasks. These tasks support diagnosis and treatment of illnesses, disease, injury or impairment. They are also trained to support the implementation of any healthcare treatment and referral plan recommended by a medical, nursing or any other healthcare professional. They must have a diploma or degree under the Act. The duration of the course is not less than two thousand hours, spread over two years, and divided into specific semesters."

While a healthcare professional is:

"A scientist, therapist, or professionals who studies, advises, researches, supervises or provides preventive, curative, rehabilitation, therapeutic or promotional health services. They must have a degree under the Act. The duration of the course in not less than three thousand six hundred hours, spread over a period of three to six years."

The distinction between "allied" and "healthcare" professionals is important to know because these can affect career categorization, recognition, and progressions. Moreover, they influence job roles, pay scales, and guidance messages.

In India, the regulatory organization are in place for health professions such as doctors,

nurses, pharmacists, and dentists but the other Allied and Healthcare Professions have historically inadequate regulations and recognitions (Das, 2023). This lack of regulation for Allied and Healthcare Professions created confusion for students seeking credible qualifications and career counsellors guiding them. To address these challenges, the NCAHP Act, 2021 was enacted by the Indian Parliament in March 2021. The primary objective is to regulate and standardize the entire range of Allied and Healthcare Professions. The Act provides the establishment of central and state-level commissions and councils responsible for developing policies and standards relating to education, professional conduct, and registration of the Allied and Healthcare Professionals (Arfat et al., 2023).

National Educational Policy (NEP) 2020 and the NCAHP Act 2021

From a career guidance perspective, the National Educational Policy (NEP) 2020 and the NCAHP Act 2021 reshaped the educational-to-employment pipeline in the healthcare domain. The NEP 2020, discussed in the present context, focuses only on higher education. The article by Kumar (2021) in issue 1 and volume 10 of the Indian Journal of Career and Livelihood Planning highlighted key provisions of the NEP in higher education. According to the NEP 2020, students can now choose any subjects instead of the traditional Arts, Commerce or Science streams after 10 standards. Once they enter the higher education, they have the opportunity to choose a multidisciplinary undergraduate degree program for 3 years. If they secure a CGPA of 7.5, they can continue for another year focused on research skills to prepare for Post Graduation or a Ph.D., based on their interest. To align with the NEP 2020, the University Grant Commission (UGC) changed the minimal eligibility criteria. Now, a four-year degree with 75% aggregate is required to apply for a Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) and Ph.D. admission,

although those candidates are not eligible for Assistant Professor (National Testing Agency, 2025). Another key highlight of the NEP (2020) is the provision of multiple entry/exits. Students who dropped out in the first year are awarded a certificate. If they dropped in the second year, they can obtain a diploma and after the third year, a degree (Kumar, 2021).

In contrast to the NEP 2020 provisions discussed above, the thirteen Allied and Healthcare Professional curricula of the NCAHP Act 2021 provided guidelines that differs from those of the NEP 2020. This divergence means that career counsellors must help students navigate different entry and exits systems across disciplines. Except for Applied Psychology and Behavioural Health, the minimum entry criteria for the other professions are higher secondary or equivalent examination in physics, chemistry and biology. For Applied Psychology and Behavioural Health, the minimum qualification is any subjects with adequate exposure to biology and psychology in 11 and 12 standards. Such exception could create interdisciplinary opportunities for students from non-science background, but also new guiding challenges in aligning prior learning with biological sciences. This means that students can choose any subjects in their 11 and 12 standards which aligned with NEP 2020 but guidance should be provided to ensure that biology and psychology are compulsory subjects to be taken up. The duration of the courses ranges from 2.5 years to 5 years for a diploma or graduate degree, and courses like optometry, nutrition and dietetics and physiotherapy requires students to appear for the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET). For clinical practices, the students have to appear for a third-party exit/ licensure at the end of the third-year bachelor's program or at the fourth-year internship period. For Nutrition and Dietetics, certificates and diploma can be devised only for existing professional; however, multiple exits are not recommended. A summarization of the

different Allied and Healthcare Professional courses is provided in appendix 1. It is important to note that these structured durations establish tiered pathways (technician-technologist-professional) that could inform career counselling interventions. To align with the Act, the UGC has banned the open and distance education, or online mode of the Allied Health disciplines. These include nutrition and dietetics, psychology, microbiology, and biotechnology (Pti, 2025).

Issues and Concerns

Even though the NCAHP Act, 2021, has set a clear guideline, there is a possibility that the demand and supply of Allied and Healthcare Professions will not be met, especially in states with a low percentage of students opting for science streams. Figure 1 clearly indicates that youths prefer the arts to the science stream except for states in South India. Figure 2 indicates that less than 22 percent of youths from northeast opted for science, with the exception of Manipur. This percentage is low compare to the rest of the country (Ministry of Education, 2024). These figures underscore a systemic preference for arts education across most Indian states, suggesting limited future supply of allied health professionals unless targeted awareness and skill-building interventions are initiated.

There is a need for a region-specific education initiative to retain healthcare providers in their own region (WHO, 2000). From a career guidance perspective, these trends highlight the need for structured counselling interventions at the school level to increase awareness of Allied and Healthcare Professions among science and non- science students alike. Moreover, every state in the country should constitute the State Councils not only to regulate the different courses but to relaxed the eligibility criteria for the different course to bridge the gap between the education and practices and the demand for Allied and Healthcare Professionals, even with low percentage of youths opting science streams. For e.g. In Meghalaya, where the percentages of students opting for sciences is low, an art student aspire to become a nurse can opt for General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM) where the eligibility criteria is 10+2 examination with 40 percent aggregate (Director of Health Services Medical Education & Research (DME) Pasteur Hills, 2025). Such students can register themselves at the Meghalaya Nursing Council (MNC) and they are also eligible for Post- Basic B.Sc in Nursing.

Figure 1.
High School Students who Opted for the Arts and Science Stream in Central and State Higher Secondary School in India (2024).
Source: Ministry of Education, Government of India.
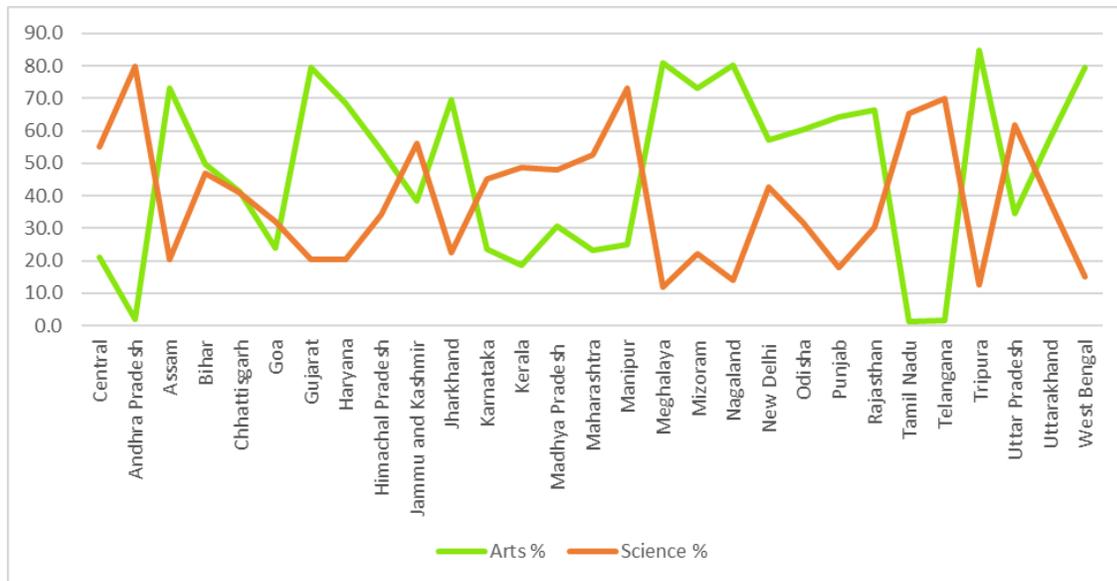
Figure 2.
Percentage of High School Students Opted the Science Stream in Central and State Higher Secondary Schools in India (2024).
Source: Ministry of Education, Government of India.
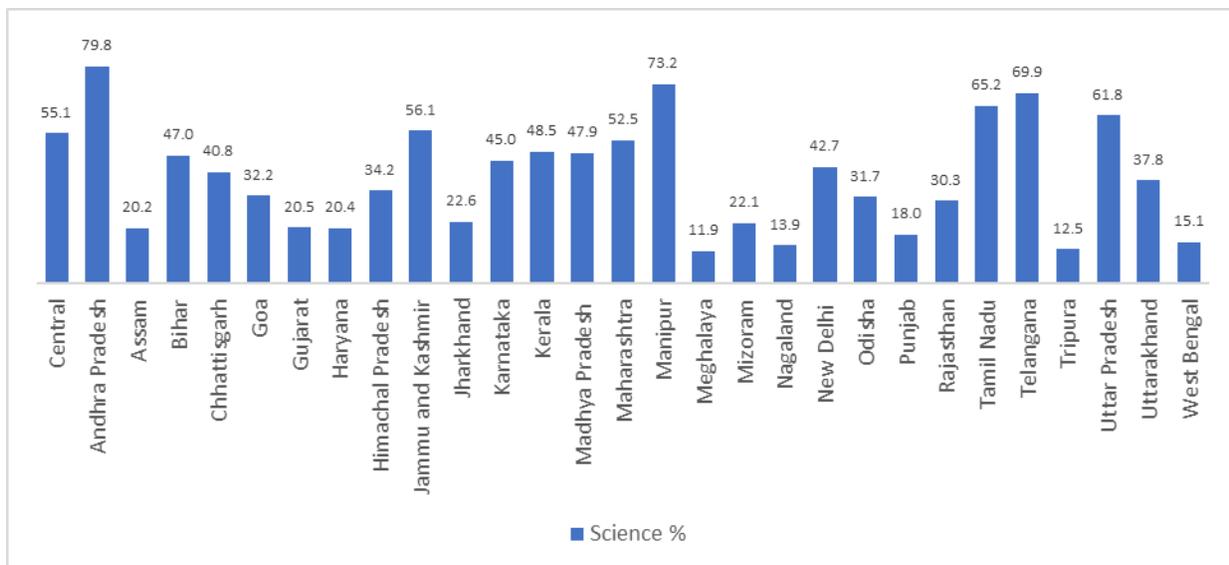
Thus, aligning education streams with emerging health sector opportunities requires coordinated policy measures and proactive career guidance efforts at school and college levels.

Implications for Career Guidance

Career counsellors and career practitioner should update themselves on the latest developments of the NCAHP Act 2021. By staying updated on regulatory frameworks, understanding occupational codes, or building partnerships with local health institutions and State Councils, they can provide credible guidance to students. Even though at present, only 13 Allied and Healthcare Professions have clear guidelines, the guidelines for the other professions are underway. They should not generalize the Allied and Healthcare Professions as each profession have different entry-level criteria, course duration, and criteria for exit and licensure. Furthermore, career counselling should start from secondary school beginning at class 9 (Ministry of Human Resource Development, 2020; Kumar, 2021) to ensure that students choose subjects that fit the eligibility criteria of the different Allied and Healthcare Professionals. It is crucial to note that open and distance education, and online mode for Allied and Healthcare Professions are

banned in India (Pti, 2025) and it is mandatory that all Allied and Healthcare Professionals to register in the National or the State Commission. Registration requirement also imply that counsellors must guide aspirants to pursue only recognized and accredited programs, ensuring professional legitimacy and employability.

Conclusion

This Act has been eagerly anticipated and has streamlined criteria, standardized and registered professions resulting in competent and well qualified Allied and Healthcare Professionals. This development not only benefits the professions but also establishes clear guidelines for career counsellors to refer to while providing career guidance. Through this, over-lapping role and ambiguous professional nomenclature have been addressed. Although further implementation of the act is still required and several challenges remain, the country is currently making progress in recognizing the Allied and Healthcare Professions. Moreover, future efforts should focus on capacity- building among counsellor and educators, alignment between the NEP 2020 and NCAHP Act 2021 framework, and awareness program for students in region with low participation in science streams.

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About the authors

Melodynia Marpna PhD., is a nutritionist and a Jiva Licensed Career Practitioner. She is an Associate Professor of the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics at Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong, India.

Lewaka Plain PhD., is a Medical Laboratory Technologist with specialization in Microbiology and Immunology and a Jiva Licensed Career Practitioner. She is the Acting Associate Dean of the School of Allied Health Sciences at Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong, India.

Colleen Sonia Pariat PhD., is the Acting Dean of the School of Allied Health Sciences at Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong, India. She specialized in Medical Microbiology, and she is a Jiva Licensed Career Practitioner.

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Appendix 1

A brief description of eligibility criteria, duration and professional title of the different Allied and Healthcare Professional courses

Name of the course	Short outline	Professional Title
1. Bachelor of Occupational therapy	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology). **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NEET **Duration**: 4 Years + 1 Year Internship.	- Clinical Occupational Therapist.
2. Masters of Occupational therapy	**Eligibility**: Bachelor of Occupational Therapy. **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 2 Years	- Superintendent Occupational Therapist - Chief Occupational Therapist - Assistant Professor
3. Bachelors of Emergency Medical Technologist (Paramedic)	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology). - Students who have passed the Senior Secondary school examination of National Open School with a minimum of 5 subjects with any of the following group subjects. - English, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology - English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and any other language. **Lateral Entry**: After completion of Diploma in emergency medical services/emergency care programs. **Eligibility Test**: NEET **Duration**: 3 Years + 1 Year Internship.	- Emergency Paramedic - Health and Safety Officer - Tutor /Demonstrator - Scientist
4. Masters of Advanced Care Paramedic	**Eligibility**: Bachelor of Emergency Medical Technologist. **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 2 Years	- Manager/Coordinator of Emergency Services - Regional Emergency Health Coordinator - Assistant Professor - Scientist
5. Diploma in Dialysis Technology	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology). **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 2 Years + 6 months Internship.	- Dialysis care associate
6. Bachelors of Dialysis Therapy Technology	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology and/ or Maths). **Lateral Entry**: After completion of Diploma in Dialysis Technology. **Eligibility Test**: NEET **Duration**: 3 Years + 1 Year Internship.	- Dialysis therapy technologist - Transplant co-ordinator - Vascular access coordinator - Nephrology physician associate

7.	Master of Dialysis Therapy	**Eligibility**: Bachelor in Dialysis Therapy Technology. **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 2 Years.	- Transplant co-ordinator - Vascular access coordinator - Nephrology physician associate - Assistant professor & dialysis therapist
8.	Diploma in Health Information Management	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology/ Mathematics). **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 2 Years + 6 months Internship.	- Health Information Management Assistant
9.	Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology). **Lateral Entry**: After completion of Diploma in Health Information management. **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 3 Years + 1 Year Internship.	- Health Information Management Technologist - Health Information Management Officer
10.	Master of Science in Health Information Management	**Eligibility**: Any UG Program of 3 years duration - Any health science graduate with MBBS/ BAMS/ BHMS/BDS/Nursing/Allied Health Sciences. **Lateral Entry**: After completion of Bachelor in Health Information management. **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 2 Years.	- Asst. Manager -HIM - Deputy Manager – HIM - Manager -HIM / Health Information Compliance officer
11.	Bachelor in Medical Radiology and Imaging Technology	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology). - Students who have passed the Senior Secondary school examination of National Open School with a minimum of 5 subjects with any of the following group subjects. - English, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology - English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and any other language. **Lateral Entry**: After completion of Diploma in Medical Imaging Technology/ Radiography. **Eligibility Test**: NEET **Duration**: 3 Years + 1 Year Internship.	- Diagnostic Radiographers/ Imaging Technologist/ Radio-Diagnosis Technologist.
12.	Master in Medical Radiology and Imaging Technology	**Eligibility**: Bachelor in Medical Radiology and Imaging Technology. **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NEET **Duration**: 2 Years.	- Diagnostic Radiographers/ Imaging Technologist/ Radio-Diagnosis Technologist. - Assistant Professor
13.	Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology).	- Medical laboratory Technologist - Technical Officer

		- Students who have passed the Senior Secondary school examination of National Open School with a minimum of 5 subjects with any of the following group subjects. - English, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology - English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and any other language. **Lateral Entry**: After completion of Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology. **Eligibility Test**: NEET **Duration**: 3 Years + 1 Year Internship.	- Tutor/ Demonstrator
14.	Master of Medical Laboratory Science	**Eligibility**: Bachelor in Medical Laboratory Science. **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 2 Years.	- Technical Officer - Assistant Professor
15.	Bachelor of Nutrition and Dietetics (Honors)	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology/ Mathematics). - Students who have passed the Senior Secondary school examination of National Open School with a minimum of 5 subjects with any of the following group subjects. - English, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, Food, Nutrition and Dietetics - English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Food, Nutrition and Dietetics and any other language. **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NEET **Duration**: 4 Years with 6 months Internship.	- Assistant Dietitian - Dietitian - State Nutrition Officer and State Nutrition Research Officer - Field Research officers /Research Personnel for National Health Surveys - Various positions – at Block, Districts, State and Central in various programs of Govt of India - Nutrition Consultant in various local NGOs. - Nutrition Consultant/Research Office in Nationals NGOs
16.	Masters in Nutrition and Dietetics	**Eligibility**: Bachelor of Nutrition and Dietetics in Honors. **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NEET **Duration**: 2 Years with 3 months internship.	- Assistant Dietitian - Dietitian - State Nutrition Officer and State Nutrition Research Officer - Field Research officers /Research Personnel for National Health Surveys - Various positions – at Block, Districts, State and Central in various programs of Govt of India. - Monitoring, Evaluation & Supervisory positions in

		Nutrition & Health related Programs - From Programme Officer to Deputy Director Level in Govt. Sectors - Nutrition Consultant /Research Office in Nationals NGOs - Nutrition Consultant /Nutrition Officer, Nutrition Specialists/ researcher in international organizations
17. Diploma in Anaesthesia & Operation Theatre Technology	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology). **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 2 Years + 6 months internship.	- Junior Anaesthesia & Operation Theatre Technologist
18. Bachelor in Anaesthesia & Operation Theatre Technology	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology). **Lateral Entry**: After completion of Diploma in Anaesthesia & Operation Theatre Technology. **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 3 Years + 1 year internship.	- Anaesthesia & Operation Theatre Technologist - Demonstrator
19. Masters in Anaesthesia & Operation Theatre Technology	**Eligibility**: Bachelor in Anaesthesia & Operation Theatre Technology. **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 2 Years.	- Technical Officer - Senior Anaesthesia & Operation Theatre Technologist - Assistant Professor
20. Bachelor of Optometry	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology/ Mathematics). - Students who have passed the Senior Secondary school examination of National Open School with a minimum of 5 subjects with any of the following group subjects. - English, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology - English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology/ Mathematics and any other language. **Lateral Entry**: After completion of diploma in Optometry/ vision technician/ophthalmic assistant programs **Eligibility Test**: NEET **Duration**: 4 Years + 1 year internship.	- Optometrist - Assistant Manager Professional Services
21. Master of Optometry	**Eligibility**: Bachelor of Optometry **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 2 Years.	- Consultant Optometrist - Manager Professional Services

22. Bachelor of Physician Associate Studies	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology). - Students who have passed the Senior Secondary school examination of National Open School with a minimum of 5 subjects with any of the following group subjects. - English, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology - English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and any other language. **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 3 Years + 1 year internship.	- Junior Physician Associate - Teaching assistant - Tutor
23. Master of Physician Associate Studies	**Eligibility**: Bachelor of Physician Associate Studies **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 2 Years.	- Senior Physician Associate - Tutor/ Lecturer - Assistant Professor
24. Bachelor of Physiotherapy	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology). **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NEET **Duration**: 4 Years + 1 year internship.	- Clinical Physiotherapist
25. Master of Physiotherapy	**Eligibility**: Bachelor of Physiotherapy **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: Conducted for the purpose at the State/ University level **Duration**: 2 Years.	- Superintendent Physiotherapist - Assistant Professor
26. Bachelor in Psychology	**Eligibility**: Higher Secondary (10+2) or equivalent examination recognized by any Indian University or a duly constituted Board with 55% marks, having Psychology as one of the subjects. **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 4 Years with Internship.	- Psychology Graduate Teaching assistant - Research assistant - Court Appointed Special Advocate - Tutor - Mental Health Technician - Administrative assistant - Human Resources assistant - Recruiting assistant - Student support representative - Student worker - Resident adviser - Publishing house/ Proofreader - Assistant Psychologist - SEN Teaching Assistant (school, college, university)

27.	Diploma in Radiotherapy Technology	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology). - Students who have passed the Senior Secondary school examination of National Open School with a minimum of 5 subjects with any of the following group subjects. - English, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology - English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and any other language. **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: NA **Duration**: 2 Years + 6 months internship.	- Junior Radiation Therapist - Junior Technical Associate - Tutor
28.	Bachelor of Radiation Therapy Technology	**Eligibility**: 10+2 Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology). - Diploma in Radiotherapy Technology - Students who have passed the Senior Secondary school examination of National Open School with a minimum of 5 subjects with any of the following group subjects. - English, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology - English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and any other language. **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: Entrance test, to be conducted by the university. **Duration**: 3 Years + 6 months internship.	- Junior Radiation Therapist (Grade I) - Technical Associate I - Senior Tutor
29.	Master of Radiation Therapy Technology	**Eligibility**: Bachelor of Radiation Therapy Technology. **Lateral Entry**: NA **Eligibility Test**: Conducted by the University. **Duration**: 2 Years.	- Senior Technical Associate/ Senior Manager Grade I

Appendix 2: Number of students and percentage of the Stream-wise Results Annual & Supplementary (2024).
Source: Ministry of Education, Government of India

Sl. No.	State	All Streams			Arts						Commerce						Science					
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	%	Girls	%	Total	%	Boys	%	Girls	%	Total	%	Boys	%	Girls	%	Total	%
1	Central	813637	710877	1524514	140637	9.2	182087	11.9	322724	21.2	200620	13.2	160292	10.5	360912	23.7	472119	31.0	368363	24.2	840482	55.1
2	Andhra Pradesh	207479	225489	432968	3903	0.9	4307	1.0	8210	1.9	22680	5.2	23968	5.5	46648	10.8	166961	38.6	178700	41.3	345661	79.8
3	Assam	119014	128437	247451	78441	31.7	102430	41.4	180871	73.1	11073	4.5	4690	1.9	15763	6.4	29046	11.7	21058	8.5	50104	20.2
4	Bihar	546567	545332	1091899	202386	18.5	339626	31.1	542012	49.6	24032	2.2	12753	1.2	36785	3.4	320019	29.3	192916	17.7	512935	47.0
5	Chhattisgarh	90758	125897	216655	39192	18.1	50153	23.1	89345	41.2	19385	8.9	19496	9.0	38881	17.9	32181	14.9	56248	26.0	88429	40.8
6	Goa	7322	8650	15972	1116	7.0	2692	16.9	3808	23.8	2593	16.2	2343	14.7	4936	30.9	2202	13.8	2942	18.4	5144	32.2
7	Gujarat	236136	241874	478010	184269	38.5	195839	41.0	380108	79.5							51867	10.9	46035	9.6	97902	20.5
8	Haryana	92754	95810	188564	62260	33.0	66654	35.3	128914	68.4	9592	5.1	11600	6.2	21192	11.2	20902	11.1	17556	9.3	38458	20.4
9	Himachal Pradesh	30846	32829	63675	15892	25.0	18608	29.2	34500	54.2	4247	6.7	3175	5.0	7422	11.7	10707	16.8	11046	17.3	21753	34.2
10	Jammu and Kashmir	46566	46813	93379	16175	17.3	19835	21.2	36010	38.6	3465	3.7	1548	1.7	5013	5.4	26926	28.8	25430	27.2	52356	56.1
11	Jharkhand	134058	155608	289666	81638	28.2	120128	41.5	201766	69.7	12292	4.2	10196	3.5	22488	7.8	40128	13.9	25284	8.7	65412	22.6
12	Karnataka	257479	317492	574971	60914	10.6	74019	12.9	134933	23.5	80943	14.1	100106	17.4	181049	31.5	115622	20.1	143367	24.9	258989	45.0
13	Kerala	158474	193404	351878	26844	7.6	38857	11.0	65701	18.7	51876	14.7	42223	12.0	94099	26.7	67666	19.2	103104	29.3	170770	48.5
14	Madhya Pradesh	238790	255807	494597	64374	13.0	86757	17.5	151134	30.6	39160	7.9	34020	6.9	73180	14.8	114390	23.1	122410	24.7	236800	47.9
15	Maharashtra	740701	652164	1392865	165087	11.9	159223	11.4	324310	23.3	155472	11.2	145306	10.4	300778	21.6	393311	28.2	338575	24.3	731886	52.5
16	Manipur	15358	14928	30286	3969	13.1	3561	11.8	7530	24.9	305	1.0	270	0.9	575	1.9	11084	36.6	11097	36.6	22181	73.2
17	Meghalaya	10270	16725	26995	7947	29.4	13888	51.4	21835	80.9	1004	3.7	935	3.5	1939	7.2	1312	4.9	1898	7.0	3210	11.9
18	Mizoram	4284	4961	9245	3225	34.9	3536	38.2	6761	73.1	227	2.5	210	2.3	437	4.7	832	9.0	1215	13.1	2047	22.1
19	Nagaland	6395	8257	14652	5078	34.7	6703	45.7	11781	80.4	482	3.3	350	2.4	832	5.7	835	5.7	1204	8.2	2039	13.9
20	New Delhi	1158	567	1725	657	38.1	332	19.2	989	57.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	501	29.0	235	13.6	736	42.7
21	Odisha	142952	172150	315102	75841	24.1	114383	36.3	190224	60.4	13168	4.2	8008	2.5	21176	6.7	52151	16.6	47808	15.2	99959	31.7
22	Punjab	140182	125849	266031	92781	34.9	78431	29.5	171212	64.4	18918	7.1	18808	7.1	37726	14.2	22622	8.5	25299	9.5	47921	18.0
23	Rajasthan	441775	394545	836320	263080	31.5	293301	35.1	556381	66.5	17121	2.0	9308	1.1	26429	3.2	161574	19.3	91936	11.0	253510	30.3
24	Tamil Nadu	325305	393891	719196	3909	0.5	6016	0.8	9925	1.4	99127	13.8	112418	15.6	211545	29.4	205662	28.6	263515	36.6	469177	65.2
25	Telangana	182194	207053	389247	3093	0.8	3116	0.8	6209	1.6	36158	9.3	39920	10.3	76078	19.5	127529	32.8	144364	37.1	271893	69.9
26	Tripura	10720	12689	23409	8930	38.1	10961	46.8	19891	85.0	429	1.8	153	0.7	582	2.5	1361	5.8	1575	6.7	2936	12.5
27	Uttar Pradesh	1061077	996644	2057721	245768	11.9	465634	22.6	711402	34.6	29875	1.5	17702	0.9	47577	2.3	771322	37.5	500871	24.3	1272193	61.8
28	Uttarakhand	39212	45347	84559	18848	22.3	30033	35.5	48881	57.8	2285	2.7	1402	1.7	3687	4.4	18079	21.4	13912	16.5	31991	37.8
29	West Bengal	383723	314111	697834	321649	46.1	232512	33.3	554161	79.4	12325	1.8	25963	3.7	38288	5.5	49749	7.1	55636	8.0	105385	15.1

Appendix 3
Link to the websites and the notifications

State/UT	Link to the notifications	Link to the website of the State council
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Not notified	N/A
Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh.pdf	https://apsahpc.in/home
Arunachal Pradesh	Arunachal Pradesh-Revised Notification.pdf	N/A
Assam*	Assam.pdf	N/A
Bihar*	Bihar Notifications.pdf	N/A
Chandigarh	Not notified	N/A
Chhattisgarh	Not notified	N/A
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu*	Order DNH and DD.pdf	N/A
Delhi	Not notified	N/A
Goa	Goa Notifiction.pdf	N/A
Gujarat	Gujarat State Council Notification.pdf	https://gsahc.in/
Haryana	Not notified	N/A
Himachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh Notification_merged.pdf	N/A
Jammu & Kashmir	J&K Notification.pdf	N/A
Jharkhand	Not notified	N/A
Karnataka	Karnataka.pdf	https://ksahc.karnataka.gov.in/en
Kerala	Kerala notification.pdf	N/A
Ladakh	Not notified	N/A
Lakshadweep	Not notified	N/A
Madhya Pradesh*	Madhya Predesh A&HCP Council Board Latter May 2024.pdf	N/A
Maharashtra	ncahp.abdm.gov.in/statecouncil/Maharastra Notification.pdf	N/A
Manipur*	Manipur Notification.pdf	N/A
Meghalaya*	Meghalaya-State Allied and Healthcare Professional Council.pdf	N/A
Mizoram	Mizoram Notification-1.pdf	https://health.mizoram.gov.in/post/state-allied-and-healthcare-council
Nagaland	Nagaland Notification.pdf	N/A
Odisha	ODISA Govt.pdf	https://www.scamsodisha.in/
Puducherry	Not notified	N/A
Punjab*	Punjab.pdf	N/A
Rajasthan*	state allied notification all	https://rsahcouncil.org/
Sikkim*	Sikkim.pdf	N/A
Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Council Notification.pdf	N/A
Telangana	Telangana notification.pdf	N/A
Tripura	Tripura notification.pdf	https://tsahc.tripura.gov.in/
Uttar Pradesh*	UP_CP_Notification.pdf	N/A
Uttarakhand	Not notified	N/A
West Bengal*	West Bengal 17 March 23 Notification-.pdf	N/A

* The State Governments were requested to rectify since the State Councils were
constituted with deviation to the provisions of the NCAHP Act, 2021.