

Dentists Act, 1948

Chapter I - Introductory

(1) This Act may be called the Dentists Act, 1948.

(2) It extends to the whole of India¹[*****].

1. Words "except the State of Jammu and Kashmir" omitted by Dentists (Amdt.) Act (42 of 1972) Section. 2 (1-11-72).

Section 2 - Interpretation

In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context, -

- (a) "the Council" means the Dental Council of India constituted under section 3;
- (b) "dental hygienist" means a person not being a dentist or a medical practitioner, who scales, cleans or polishes teeth, or gives instructions in dental hygiene;
- (c) "dental mechanic" means a person who makes or repairs denture and dental appliances;
- (d) "dentistry" includes -
 - (i) the performance of any operation on, and the treatment on any disease, deficiency or lesion of, human teeth or jaws, and the performance of radiographic work in connection with human teeth or jaws or the oral cavity.
 - (ii) the giving of any anaesthetic in connection with any such operation or treatment;
 - (iii) the mechanical construction or the renewal of artificial dentures or restorative dental appliances;
 - (iv) the performance of any operation on, or the giving of any treatment, advice or attendance to, any person preparatory to, or for the purpose of, or in connection with, the filling, inserting, fixing, constructing, repairing or renewing of artificial dentures or restorative dental appliances, and the performance of any such operation and the giving of any such treatment, advice or attendance, as is usually performed or given by dentists;
- (e) "dentist" means a person who practises dentistry;
- (f) "medical practitioner" means a person who holds a qualification granted by an authority specified or notified under section 3 of the Indian Medical Degrees Act, 1916, or specified in the Schedules to the¹[Indian Medical Council Act, 1956],²[or specified in any other law for the time being in force in any State,) or who practises any system of medicine and is registered or is entitled to be registered in any³[State] Medical Register by whatever name called;
- (g) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules or regulations made under this Act;
- (h) "State Council" means a State Dental Council constituted under section 21, and includes a Joint State Council constituted in accordance with an agreement under section 22;
- (i) "register" means a register maintained under this Act;

[4](#)(j) "recognised dental qualification" means any of the qualifications included in the Schedule;]

(k) "recognised dental hygiene qualification" means a qualification recognised by the Council under section 11:

(l) "registered dentist", "registered dental hygienist" and "registered dental mechanic" shall mean, respectively, a person whose name is for the time being registered in a register of dentists, a register of dental hygienists and a register of dental mechanics.

[5](#)[(m) * * *]

1. Substituted for the words "Indian Medical Council Act. 1933" by Dentists (Amdt.) Act (42 of 1972) Section .3 (1-11-72).

2. Inserted by the Dentists (Amdt.) Act. 1955 (12 of 1955). Section 3 (15-4-1955).

3. Substituted for the word "Provincial" by A.L.O.1950.

4. Substituted by Dentists (Amdt.) Act (42 of 1972) Section 3 (1-11-72)

5. Clouse. (m) omitted by Dentists (Amdt.) Act (42 of 1972), Section .3 (1-11- 72).

Section 2A - Construction or references to laws not in force in Jammu and Kashmir

[1](#)[2A. Construction or references to laws not in force in Jammu and Kashmir

Any reference in this Act to a law which is not in force in the State of Jammu and Kashmir shall, in relation to that State, be construed as a reference to the corresponding law, if any, in force in that State.]

1. Section 2A inserted by Dentists (Amdt.) Act (42 of 1972). Section .4 (1-11-72).
