

For Information, discussion , comments, amendments and advocacy

Dear Friends

I am putting before you all 'the National Council of Professional Social Work in India Bill, 2007' for discussion. The enactment of this Bill is necessary not only in the contemporary scenario of the unregulated and haphazard growth our profession without any uniform norms of education and practice but also to get Social Work its respectable deserving place in the stream of professions. The Bill, if passed, will upgrade and enhance the quality of professional education and practice, and also make the profession more accountable to the public. Our best efforts are on to push the Bill through the Parliament but we need your support by way of suggestions, comments and amendments to the proposed Bill presented before you. We have great appreciation for the efforts made in the past to make this Bill a reality, however, today we need your **commitment and your unstinted support to achieve this dream, which has evaded us for too long. I will all need to work together on this exercise, putting aside differences, if any.**

I have tried to update the Bill. I look forward to your valuable inputs.

Thanks,

Ranjana Sehgal

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF  
PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK IN INDIA BILL 2007**

**Reasons and objects**

Education for social work began in India in the year 1936 with the establishment of the Sir Dorabji Tata Graduate School of Social Work at Bombay (now known as the Tata Institute of Social Sciences). Much water has flown under the bridge since then. The number of professional social work educational institutions in the country has multiplied manifold, albeit in an unregulated manner. Social work which is recognized as a distinct profession in the West and other countries of the world has failed to gain professional recognition in India for various reasons, the primary being the absence of any regulatory body at the national level for standardizing social work educational and practice standards. The emerging social realities post LPG have posed fresh challenges before the social work profession, which need to be addressed by services and action for social change in the area of social development, welfare, empowerment and crisis intervention. This in turn requires an army of professionally qualified human power, with specialized knowledge and skills. The effectiveness of social initiatives for welfare, development, empowerment and their initiation through the process of enlisting the participation of all sections of the society in the overall development of the country is directly linked with the quality of human power employed in the welfare and development institutions, both governmental and non-governmental, and also in the people-oriented community-based social movements and services.

It is in this context, and in order to upgrade and enhance the quality of professional education and practice, and also to make the profession more accountable to the public, that the present Bill on the National Council of Professional Social Work in India has been proposed.

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK IN  
INDIA BILL 2007  
Scheme of the Act**

<b>Chapter No.</b>	<i>Section Title</i>
I	PRELIMINARY 1. The Act 2. Definitions
II	ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNCIL 3. Establishment of the Council 4. Terms of Office and Condition of Service of Members 5. Disqualification 6. Vacation of Office by Members 7. Executive Committee and Other Committees 8. Pay and Allowances
III	MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL 9. Meetings
IV	FUNCTION OF THE COUNCIL 10. Functions
V	RECOGNITION AND REGISTRATION 11. Minimum Standards of Social work Education 12. Information on Courses and Examinations 13. Minimum Standards of Education for Enrolment as Professional Social Worker 14. Code of Ethics
VI	POWER TO MAKE RULES AND REGULATIONS 15. Power to Make Rules 16. Power to Make Regulations
VII	FINANCE AND REPORTS 17. Council Fund and Budget 18. Annual Reports 19. Accounts and Audit 20. Returns
VIII	MISCELLANEOUS PROVISION 21. Delegation of Powers and Functions

*A Bill to provide for the constitution of the National Council of professional Social Work in India for the coordination and development of professional social work education and practice and for matters connected herewith or incidental thereto.*

*Be it enacted in the Parliament in the \_\_\_\_\_year of the Republic of India as follows :*

## **CHAPTER I PRELIMINARY**

### **The Act**

1. (a) This Act may be called the National Council of Professional Social Work in India Act \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) It shall come into force on such date as the Government of India may, by notification in Official Gazette, appoint.

### **2. Definitions**

- (a) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:
  - (i) 'Council' means the National Council of Professional Social Work constituted under Section 3 of the Act.
  - (ii) 'Chairperson' means the Chairperson of the Council.
  - (iii) 'Vice-Chairperson' means the Vice-Chairperson of the Council.
  - (iv) 'Professional Social Work' means a form of practice which follows - established and acknowledged methods of social work carried out by professional social workers.
  - (v) 'Social Work Practicum' means the prescribed supervised instructional component of professional social work training through suitable field placements.
  - (vi) 'Social Work Professional' means a person who has undergone prescribed courses of study and practicum in social work and has passed the examination from a recognized institution of social work education' at the undergraduate and/or post-graduate level.
  - (vii) 'Social Work Educator' means a person who holds the prescribed social work qualifications and is engaged in teaching and/ or research in a recognized institution on a part time or full time basis.
  - (viii) 'Social Work Practitioner' means a person who holds the prescribed social work qualifications and is engaged in social work practice, and/ or administration.

- (ix) 'Social Work Researcher' is a person who holds prescribed qualifications in social work and is engaged in full time research in social work.
- (x) 'Paraprofessional Social Worker' means a person who has undergone social work training and has a certificate or diploma other than Bachelor's or Master's degree in social work.
- (xi) 'Institution of social work education' means an institution of higher education, an affiliated college, or a department, or a faculty of a University, or a deemed university, and includes institutions of distance learning that provide a Bachelor's or a Master's programme in social work.
- (xii) 'Recognised social work qualifications' means any of the qualifications prescribed by the rules and regulations
- (xiii) 'Member' means a member appointed under this Act and includes Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.
- (xiv) 'Secretary' means the Secretary appointed under this Act.
- (xv) 'Recognised institution' means an institution recognised by the 'Council' under this Act.
- (xvi) 'Register' means the National Register of Social Work Professional maintained under this Act.
- (xvii) 'Prescribed' means prescribed by rules and regulations.
- (xviii) 'Rules' means rules made under this Act.
- (xix) 'Regulation' means regulation made under this Act.

(should we also define a search committee specifying as to who and how members of the search the committee will be constituted.)

2( b) Any reference in this Act to any enactment or any provision thereof shall, in relation to an area in which such enactment or such provision is not in force, be construed as a reference to the corresponding law or the relevant provisions of the corresponding law, if any, in force in that area.( This can be deleted as this will be a national law)

## Chapter II

### ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNCIL

#### 3. Establishment of the Council

##### a) Constitution of the Council

With effect from such date as the Government of India may, by notification, appoint on this behalf, there shall be constituted for the purpose of this act, a Council to be called the National Council of Professional Social Work in India.

##### b) Power to acquire property

The Council shall be a body corporate, by the aforesaid name having perpetual succession, and a common seal, with power, subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire, hold and dispose off property both movable and immovable and to contract and shall by the said name sue and be sued.

##### c) Composition of the Search Committee

The Search Committee may comprise of two senior social work educators, two senior social work practitioners and a representative of the Government of India not below the rank of a Secretary.

#### 4. Composition of the Council

The Council shall consist of the following members, namely :

##### (i) Chairperson

- (i) The Chairperson shall be appointed by the Government of India, from a panel of names suggested by a Search Committee, to be constituted from amongst eminent professional social work educators and he/she shall not be an officer of the government of India or any State Government.

##### (ii) Vice-Chairperson

Vice-Chairperson shall be appointed by the Government of India, from a panel of names suggested by the Search Committee, from amongst eminent professional social work educators and he/she shall not be an officer of the government of India or any State Government.

##### (iii) (shall Secretary we only say this)

Member-Secretary to be appointed by the Government of India from a panel of names suggested by the Search Committee, from amongst eminent professional social work educators, and who is not an officer of the Government of India or any State Government.

(iv) **Members**

- a) Eight social work educators by rotation from the recognised institutions for Social work Education from different regions.
- b) One member each to be nominated by the Chairperson, University Grants commission and the Chairperson of distance Education Council to represent UGC and the Distance Education Council respectively.
- c) Two ex-officio members, not below the rank of Joint Secretary to be nominated from among the officers of the Central Government to represent (i) the Ministry/Department of Welfare and (ii) the Ministry of Finance or Financial Advisor of the department concerned.
- d) Two ex-officio members to be nominated by the Central Government not below the rank of Joint Secretary to represent the Department of (a) Women and Child Development, (b) Labour and Rural Development, (c) Youth, Health and Family Welfare of the Central Government. ( this may be replaced or added by Dept of HRD
- e) Four members to be nominated to represent the State Governments and Union Territories from the Departments of Social Welfare or allied departments by rotation, to be specified by Rules.
- f) Two members to be nominated by the National Association of Professional Social Workers in India.
- g) Four members to be nominated by the Government of India from amongst the practicing Social Work Professionals representing public, voluntary and corporate sectors.
- h) one member to be nominated by the School of Social Work, IGNOU, Ministry of MHRD, GOVT. of India

**TERMS OF OFFICE AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE**

4. (a) A person appointed as Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Member Secretary, or any other Member, after commencement of this Act shall, unless he/she is disqualified for continuing as such, under the rules that may be made under this Act, shall be subject to the following terms of office -

**Terms of the Chairperson**

- (i) in the case of Chairperson, hold office for a term of three years, or until he/she attains the age of sixty five years, whichever is earlier.

**Terms of office of Vice-Chairperson**

- (ii) in the case of Vice-Chairperson, hold office for a term of three years or until he/she attains the age of sixty five years whichever is earlier.

**Terms of office of Member-Secretary**

- (iii) in the case of Member-Secretary, hold office for a term of three years or until he/she attains the age of sixty five years whichever is earlier.

**Terms of office of Members**

- (iv) in the case of any other nominated members hold office for a term of three years or until he/she attains the age of sixty five years.

**Provided that -**

a. Re-appointment

- (i) person who has held office as Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson or Member Secretary shall be eligible for re-appointment as Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Member Secretary or other member, and
- (ii) a person who has held office as any other member shall be eligible for re-appointment as Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Member Secretary or other member.

- b. (i) Members of the Council shall hold office for a term of three years from the date of their appointment and they shall not be appointed for more than two terms. One-third members of the first Council shall retire at the end of two years in order to allow the new members to hold office for the sake of continuity. (All the above functionaries shall not be eligible for reappointment for more than two executive terms)

c. Filling of vacancy

A casual vacancy in the Council shall be filled in accordance with the provision of section 3 and the person so appointed shall hold office only for the remainder of the term for which the member in whose place he/she was appointed would have held that office.

d. Power to Co-opt.

- (i) the Council may co-opt, in such manner and for such purposes as may be determined by the regulations not more than three persons, whose assistance or advice it may desire in carrying out any of the provisions of this Act.

- (ii) the person co-opted by the Council under sub-section (I) for any persons, whose assistance or advice it may desire in carrying out any of the provisions of this Act. (not clear)

e. Appointment of officers and other employees of the Council.

- (i) For the purpose of enabling the Council to discharge its functions efficiently under this Act, the Council shall, subject to such regulations as may be made in this behalf, appoint (whether on deputation or otherwise) such number of officers and other employees as it may consider necessary.

Provided that the category of posts equivalent to Group 'A' posts in the Central Government shall be subject to the approval of the Central Government.

- (ii) Every officer and decisions of the Council shall be subject to such conditions as may be determined by regulations.

f. Election of Acting Chairperson

The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, if for any reason, are unable to attend the meeting of the Council, a senior social work educator, elected by the members present at the meeting, from amongst themselves, shall preside in his/her absence.

g. Decision making

All questions which come before any meeting of the council shall be decided by a simple majority of (votes one third/two third) of the members present and voting and in the event of any equality of votes, the Chairperson in his/her absence, the person presiding or shall have a casting vote.

## 5. DISQUALIFICATION

### Conditions

No person shall be a member of the Council if he/she -

- a) is, or becomes of unsound mind or is so declared by a competent court of law; or
- b) is or has been convicted for any offence which in the opinion of the Government of India involves moral turpitude; or
- c) is or at any time has been adjudicated as insolvent.
- d) has been removed or dismissed from the service of the Government or a body corporate owned or controlled by the Government; or

- e) has in the opinion of the Central Government such financial and other interest in the Council as is likely to effect prejudicially the discharge by him/her of his/her functions as a Member.

### **VACATION OF OFFICE BY MEMEBRS**

#### Removal

- 6. The Central Government shall remove a Member if he/she
  - (a) becomes subject to any of the disqualifications mentioned in Section 5, or
  - (b) is absent without excuse, sufficient in the opinion of the Council, for three consecutive meetings of the Council, or
  - (c) ceases to be enrolled on the National Register of Social Work Professionals.

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OTHER COMMITTEES**

- 7. Constitution of Executive and other committees
  - a) The Council shall constitute, from amongst its members, an Executive Committee, and such other Committees, for general or special purposes as the Council deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.
  - b) The Executive committee shall consist of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson and not less than 6 and not more than 10 members and shall be nominated by the Council from amongst and members, two-third of whom shall be social work professionals.
  - c) The Chairperson of the Council shall be the Chairperson of the Executive Committee.
  - d) The Member-Secretary of the Council shall be the Member-Secretary of the Executive Committee.
  - e) The Council shall establish the following Committees, and such others as may be necessary, to carry out the functions assigned to it and shall, if necessary, also co-opt members other than its own on these Committees to facilitate the work.
    1. Committee on Training and Accreditation.
    2. Committee on Policy, Planning, Research and Evaluation.
    3. Committee on Curriculum development and continuing Education.
    4. Committee on Social Work Practice and Innovation.
    5. Committee on Code of Ethics
    6. any other committee that the council may decide to constitute

- f) In addition to the powers and duties conferred and imposed upon it by this Act, the Executive Committee, or any other Committee, shall exercise and discharge such powers and duties as the Council may confer or impose upon it by any regulations which may be made in this behalf.

## **MEMBER-SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL**

### **Pay and Allowances**

The Council shall, with the previous sanction of the Government of India, fix the allowances to be paid to the Chairperson, Vice-chairperson, Member-Secretary and other members and determine the conditions of service by rules.

No order or proceeding of the Council, or any Committee thereof, shall be called in question on the ground merely of the existence of any vacancy in or any defect in the constitution of the Council, or a Committee thereof, as the case may be.

## **CHAPTER III**

### **SECTION 9 : MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL**

#### **Meetings**

- i) The Council shall meet at such time and places and shall observe such rules of procedure in regard to the transaction of business at its meetings (including the quorum) as may be provided by regulations:  
Provided that the Council shall meet at least once every year.
- ii) The Chairperson, and in the absence of the Chairperson the Vice-Chairperson, shall preside at the meetings of the Council.
- iii) If for any reason the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, both are unable to attend any meeting of the council, any other Member present at the meeting, with the consent of the majority, shall preside at the meeting.
- iv) All questions which come up before any meeting of the Council shall be decided by a one third/two third majority of votes of the members present and voting and in the event of any equality of votes, the Chairperson or in the absence of the Chairperson, the person presiding shall have and exercise a second or casting vote.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **FUNCTION OF THE COUNCIL**

#### **10 Functions**

The Council shall, in consultation with the Universities, including IGNOU and NAPSWI, take all such steps as it may think fit for the promotion, maintenance,

co-ordination of standards of education, training, research and practice; and for the purpose of performing its functions under this Act, shall :

1. Make recommendations to the Central and State Governments, University Grants Commission and recognized institutions in the matter of suitable policies, plans, and programmes concerning the development of professional social work education and practice;
2. Co-ordinate and monitor social work education and practice and promote its development in the country;
3. Undertake surveys and studies relating to various aspects of social work education, training and practice and disseminate results thereof;
4. Lay down guidelines in respect of minimum qualifications for persons to be employed as social work professional;
5. Lay down guidelines for granting recognition to the institution as well as existing courses and for starting new courses for social work education and training, including the minimum eligibility criteria for admission and for providing physical and instructional facilities, staffing pattern and staff qualifications;
6. Promote innovation in social work teaching, training, research and practice and disseminate the results thereof.
7. Evolve suitable performance appraisal systems, norms, and mechanisms for assessing standards of social work education and practice and review periodically the implementation of the norms, guidelines and standards laid down
8. Take all necessary steps to prevent commercialisation of social work education and practice.
9. Assess the professional social work human power needs in the country including identification of positions to be filled by social work professionals only and those positions where social work could also be one of the professions.
10. Promote the production of indigeneous literature in all the official languages of the country;
11. Collect and disburse financial assistance to recognised social work institutions from the Funds of the Council for special and suitable programmes, not funded by the UGC.
12. Promote interaction between professional social work and allied disciplines/professions in the area of teaching, training, research and practice;

13. Undertake and/or promote programmes of faculty development, preparation of teaching aids and field action projects;
  14. Act as a clearing house for social work education and practice in the country and liaise with national and international organisations with similar functions;
  15. Hold periodic consultation with the Government of India, National Commissions/Councils which have a bearing on professional social work;
  16. Take steps for advocacy and promotion of the profession of social work;
  17. Draw up a Code of Ethics and a Code of Conduct for social work educators, researchers and practitioners, and mechanisms for their enforcement, and
  18. Recommend from time to time to the govt of India and the state governments the posts/jobs for which social work education and training should be a preceding condition for appointment
18. Perform such other functions as the Council may deem fit from time to time.

## CHAPTER V

### RECOGNITION AND REGISTRATION

Recognition of Qualifications granted by Universities in India for Social Work Professionals

#### 12 Minimum Standards

1 The Council shall prescribe the minimum standards of social work education and shall advise the UGC for specification of degrees in professional social work for purposes of section 22(3) of the UGC Act, 1956.

2 Recognition of qualifications granted by institutions inside India

i) For pursuing any courses or seeking employment outside India the Council shall be the authorized professional body to certify the qualifications, credentials, credit etc. of the person applying for further studies in social work discipline or employment abroad.

3. Recognition of qualifications granted by institutions outside India

The Council may enter into negotiations with the authority in any country outside India, or set up a scheme of reciprocity for the recognition of qualifications and, in pursuance by notification on the recommendation of the Council, amend the schedule so as to include therein any qualification which the council by notification may also direct that an entry shall be made in the last column of the schedule declaring that it shall be the recognised qualification only when granted after a specified date. **(not clear)**

Power to require information as to the courses of study and examinations

### **13 Information on Courses and Examinations**

- (1) Every University (including IGNOU) college or Institution in India, which grants a recognised qualification in professional social work, shall furnish such information as the Council may, from time to time, require as to the courses of study, training and examination to be undergone in order to obtain such qualifications, as to the ages at which such courses of study and such qualifications are conferred and, generally, as to the requisites for obtaining such qualifications.
- (2) The Council shall appoint such number of Expert Committees, as it may deem necessary, to visit any university or institution, referred to in Section 13(1) above.

#### **(3) Expert Committee**

The Expert Committees shall visit any university or institution, which wishes to grant or confer university pre-degree, degree diploma or certificate in para-professional social work for purposes of recommending to the Government of India or State Government, for recognition of such qualifications diplomas or certificates as recognized social work qualifications. ( why only para professional)

(4) The Expert Committee, appointed under sub-section 13(2), shall not interfere with the conduct of any training or examination but shall report to the Council on the adequacy, or otherwise, of the standards of education including the staff, equipment, accommodation, training and facilities.

#### **Withdrawal of recognition**

##### **(5) Withdrawal**

When, upon report by the Export Committee, it appears to the Council (a) that the courses of study and examination to be undergone in, or the proficiency required from the candidates at any examination held by any university or institution, or (b) that the staff, equipment, accomodation, training and other infrastructural facilities for the instruction and training provided in such university or institution do not conform to the prescribed standards, the Council shall make a representation to the concerned authority as it may deem fit for the withdrawal of recognition.

#### **Appeals**

Subject to other provisions contained in this Act, any qualification included in this schedule shall be sufficient qualification for enrolment on the Register.

## MINIMUM STANDARDS OF EDUCATION FOR ENROLMENT AS PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORKER

### 14. Minimum Standard for enrolment

1. The Council shall prescribe the minimum standards for enrolment as Social Work Professional under its Regulations.
2. Every person, whose name is borne on the Register, shall be entitled to work as Social Work Educator or practise Social Work in any part of India.
3. No person other than the Social Work Professional, who possesses a recognised social work qualification, and is enrolled on the Register.
  - (a) shall hold office as social work professional or any institutions maintained by a local or other authority).
  - (b) Shall practise as Social Work Professional anywhere in India.
  - c) Shall be entitled to sign or authenticate any certificate required such office (by whatever designation called) in Government or in any by any law to be signed or authenticated by Social Work Professional.
  - (d) Shall be entitled to give evidence in any court as an expert under section (45) of the Indian Evidence Act, 1972, on any matter relating to professional social work.

provided that if a person possesses the recognised professional qualifications on the date of commencement of this Act, he/she shall be deemed to be an enrolled social Work Professional for a period of six months from such commencement, and if the person has made an application for enrolment on the Register within such period of six months, till such application is disposed off,
  - (e) Contravention and penalty

any person who acts in contravention of any provision of sub-sections 14(3) (a), (b), (c), and (d) shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to Rs.1,00,000/- or both.

### SECTION 15 :

- (1) The Council shall prescribe standards of professional conduct and a code of ethics for social work professionals by Regulations,

- (2) Every person whose name is borne on the Register of the Council shall be bound by the code of ethics and its infringement shall attract the provisions of this Act.

## **CHAPTER VI POWER TO MAKE RULES**

### **SECTION 16 :**

The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Members, Member-Secretary, officers and other employees of the Council shall, while acting or purporting to act in pursuance of the provisions of this Act or of any rule and regulations made thereunder, be deemed to be public servants, within the meaning of section 21 of the Indian Penal Code.

### **SECTION 17 :**

- (1) The Central Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, make rules to carry out the purposes of this Act.
- (2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matter, namely:
- a) Terms and conditions of service of the members of the council;
  - b) Procedure for retirement of members;
  - c) Disqualification for continuing as a member of the Council;
  - d) Terms and conditions of service of the employees;
  - e) Returns and information which are to be furnished by the universities;
  - f) Form and manner in which the budget and reports are to be prepared by the Council;
  - g) Manner in which the accounts of the Council are to be maintained;
  - h) Form and manner in which return or other information are to be furnished by the Council to the Central Government.
  - i) Any other matter which has to be, or may be, prescribed.

### **POWER TO MAKE REGULATIONS**

#### **SECTION 18 : Regulations**

1. The Council may, with the previous sanction of the Central Government, by notification in the official Gazette, make regulation consistent with this Act and the rules made thereunder-

- a) Management of the property of the Council;
- b) Functions of the Executive Committee and other Committees of the Council constituted under this Act;
- c) Courses and period of education and training to be undertaken, the subjects of examinations and standards of proficiency therein to be obtained in any university or any institution for grant of recognised Social Work Qualification;
- d) Standards of staff, equipment, accommodation, training and other facilities for study or training of the Social Work Professionals;
- e) Conduct of examination qualifications of examiners and
- f) Standards of professional conduct and code of ethics to be observed by social work professionals;
- g) Particulars to be stated, and proof of qualifications to be given, in application for registration under this Act.
- h) Any other matter which is to be, or may be prescribed.

## **CHAPTER VII FINANCE AND REPORTS**

### **SECTION 19 :**

- (i) Council fund

The Council shall have its own Fund; and all sums which may, from time to time, be paid to it by the Central Government or any other Agency and all receipts of the Council shall be carried to the Fund and all payments by the Council shall be made therefrom.

- (ii) Budget

The Council shall prepare, in such form and at such time each year as may be prescribed, a budget in respect of the financial year next ensuing showing the estimated receipts and expenditure, and copies thereof shall be forwarded to the Central Government.

### **SECTION 20 : Annual Reports**

The Council shall prepare, once every year, in such form and at such time as may be prescribed, an annual report giving a true and full account of its activities during the previous years, and copies thereof shall be forwarded to the Central Government and the Government shall cause the same to be laid before both Houses of the Parliament.

## **SECTION 21 : Accounts and Audit**

- (1) The Council shall cause to be maintained such books of account and other books in relation to its account in such form and in such manner as may, in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, be prescribed.
- (2) The accounts of the Council shall be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General at such times and in such manner as he/she thinks fit.

## **SECTION 22 : Returns**

The Council shall furnish to the Central Government such returns or other information with respect to its property or activities as the Central Government may, from time to time, require.

## **CHAPTER VIII**

### **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

#### **1. Delegation of powers and functions**

The Council may, by general or special order in writing, delegate to the Chairperson or to any other member or to any officer of the Regional Committee, subject to such conditions and limitations, if any, as may be specified in the order, such of its powers and functions under this Act (except the power to make regulations under Section 32), as it may deem necessary.

#### **2. Protection on action taken in good faith**

No prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against the Central Government, the Council or any committees appointed by it, or any Member of the Council or member of such committees, or any officer or employee of the Central Government or the Council or any other person authorised by that Government or the Council, for anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done under this Act or the rules or regulations made thereunder.

- The Heads of the social work schools/colleges/institutions shall be a professionally qualified social worker from an institution recognized by this council.
- Courses which have an interdeceplinary component other subjects will remain in a subsidiary domain as social work is a interdeceplinary subject, faculty from other deceplines amy be engaged in taking the subsidiary subjects. however such faculty shall not be recognized/entitled to neither head the institution nor guide the students for social work practical for

any overseas employment in the field of social work this council shall be the authorized professional body at the national level to certify the qualifications credentials credit etc of the social worker applying for the job or further studies in the decline of social work abroad

- Any professional social worker migrating to India and having a recognized degree of social work shall be deemed as a professional social worker for the purposes of this act.
- If any university wants to seek a collaboration programme in social work from any university abroad in the field of social work it shall take clearance from the council. only after acquiring an noc from the council they can proceed for any academic collaborations in thew decipline of professional social work
- This council recognizes NAPSWI as a national association/body for/of professionally qualified social workers, both educators and practitioners, in India