

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4811
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28TH MARCH, 2025**

SHORTAGE OF TRAINED NURSING STAFF

4811. SHRI KHALILUR RAHAMAN:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is shortage of adequate trained nursing staff in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated shortage; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken up by the Government to address the shortage?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH
AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (c) As per the Indian Nursing Council, there are around 38.49 lakh nursing personnel registered in the country. The Nurse to Population ratio is approximately 2.20 nurses per 1000 population. There are around 5299 Nursing institutions producing nearly 3.82 Lakh Nursing personnel annually in the country.

Some of the proactive measures taken to increase nursing personnel in the country are as follows:-

- (i) The Government has sanctioned the Centrally Sponsored Scheme “Augmenting Nursing Education - Establishment of new Colleges of Nursing in co-location with Medical Colleges” for establishment of 157 new nursing colleges in co-location with the existing medical colleges established since 2014.
- (ii) Under the Central Sector Scheme ‘Development of Nursing Services’ financial assistance is provided to States/UTs to upgrade Schools of Nursing into Colleges of Nursing.
- (iii) Distance between nursing educational institutions has been reduced from 10 km to 5 km in Hilly areas.
- (iv) Maximum distance between hospital and institution can be 50 km in Hilly areas as against 30 km in plain areas.

- (v) For Nursing Educational Programmes, student patient ratio has been relaxed from 1:5 to 1:3.
- (vi) The land requirement for Nursing Educational Institutes from 3 acres has been relaxed to constructed building of 54,000 sq. ft. for School/College of Nursing including Hostel.
- (vii) To open GNM and B.Sc. (Nursing) programme, 100 bedded parent hospital is essential since 2013-2014. However, this is relaxed for hilly and tribal areas.
- (viii) Norms for teaching faculty to start B.Sc. (N) Programme has been relaxed as under:
 - At least 2 M.Sc. (N) faculty to be available
 - Qualification and Experience of the Nursing Teachers has been relaxed.
- (ix) Super speciality Hospital can start M.Sc. (N) without having under graduate programme. Further, student teacher ratio for M.Sc.(N) programme has been relaxed from 1:5 to 1:10
- (x) Age of superannuation for faculty in Nursing has been increased to 70 years.
- (xi) INC has increased the maximum number of sanctioned seats for Nursing programs to 300.
