

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4772  
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2005  
FOREIGN PATIENTS IN INDIAN HOSPITALS  
Nedurumalli Janardhana Reddy Shri

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

- (a) the average number of patients in the country per doctor;
- (b) the number of foreign patients who came to India for medical treatment/surgery during each of the last three years , country -wise;
- (c) whether this increased flow of foreign patients in Indian hospitals will not inflate the cost of medical treatment for Indian patients in those hospitals;
- (d) if so, the manner in which their interest will be protected;
- (e) the number of registered allopathic and homoeopathic doctors as on date in the country separately;
- (f) the number of doctors out of them practicing in the Primary Health Centres in the rural and hilly areas ; and
- (g) the number of new health centres opened in the rural areas by the Government in 2004-05?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE( SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

- (a): The doctor-patient ratio varies from case to case depending upon various factors like the type of disease, nature of specialization, type of patient care required viz. Indoor/outdoor. No statistics are being compiled about doctor-patient ratio. However, as per the figures obtained from the Medical Council of India, the allopathic doctor-population ratio at present works out to 1:1722.
- (b): The country-wise information regarding foreign patients coming to India for medical treatment/surgery is not maintained.
- (c) and (d): Hospitals in India are increasingly modernizing their equipments and moving towards more effective provision of health services. As services extended to foreign tourists are not at the cost of Indian patients, interest of the latter group will be protected.
- (e): There are registered 6,39,729 Allopathic and 2,01,484 Homoeopathic medical practitioners.
- (f): According to available information 21,974 doctors are posted in the Primary Health Centres.
- (g): Available data indicates that 4962 Health Centres have been opened during April 2003 to Sept. 2004.