

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:431
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2004
MIGRATION OF DOCTORS
Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to check migration of doctors to foreign countries in order to improve health services in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard; and
- (c) the number of doctors settled abroad during each of the last three years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 431 FOR 25TH AUGUST, 2004

As per information available with the Government, a total of 6,04,489 Allopathic doctors were registered with the Medical Council of India till March, 2003. Besides, there are around six lakhs Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathic doctors registered with their respective Councils. The norm for availability of doctors to the population in the country has been recommended to be as 1:2000 by the Bhore Committee. As per information with the Medical Council of India, the availability of Allopathic doctors is at present in the ratio of 1:1800. If the practitioners of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy are also taken into account, the ratio of availability of doctors to the population improves further. Though there is no shortage in the aggregate number of doctors produced, there is a geographical and speciality-wise imbalance in the availability of doctors.

Presently there are 229 medical colleges in the country with an annual admission capacity of 25,682 MBBS students.

There is currently no proposal to check migration of doctors to foreign countries.

As regards the number of doctors settled abroad during each of the last three years, no such data is maintained.