

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2876
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2006
SHORTAGE OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS/ COMPOUNDERS
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there is acute shortage of Registered Medical Practitioners and Compounders in the country particularly in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to set up medical institutions to impart training to rural youths to overcome this shortage; and
- (d) if so, the time by which such institutions are likely to be set up?

Answer

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

(a) to (b): There are 656111 allopathic doctors possessing recognized medical qualifications (under IMC Act and registered with State Medical Councils) in the country upto the year 2005. As far as delivery of health care in the rural areas through 3 tier primary health care system of Sub-centres, Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Community Health Centres(CHCs) is concerned, there are shortages of doctors. The shortfall of compounder/pharmacists in PHC & CHC, countrywide is about 7.1%.

(c) & (d): A task Group has been constituted under NRHM to examine inter- alia, the feasibility of short term courses.