

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1167
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2006
MEDICAL FACILITIES TO SENIOR CITIZENS
Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

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

- (a) whether the number of elderly citizens is expected to grow 13.7 crores by 2021;
- (b) if so, whether the medical facilities available to senior citizens are not at a par with the services offered in foreign countries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to provide effective medical facilities to senior citizens?

Answer

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

(a): As per the information given by the Office of the Registrar General of India, the provisionally projected population of elderly citizens (aged 60 and above) of India, based on the Census of India 2001 would be 14.3 crores in 2021. This is based on the results of the population projections based on the recommendations of the technical group on Population Projections, set up by the National Commission on Population under the Chairmanship of the Registrar General of India to project population for the period 2001-2025.

(b) to (d): Health care of elderly is available through the normal health infrastructure which is being progressively strengthened. Exclusive OPDs for Geriatric Patients have started functioning in Safdarjung Hospital, LHMC and Associated Hospitals and AIIMS, New Delhi by utilizing the existing infrastructure.