

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1232
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2007
HEALTH CARE SYSTEM
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the Approach Paper of the Eleventh Plan, the Indian Healthcare System has suffered a severe shortage of trained personnel to the extent of 6% to 30%;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether as per the study undertaken by CII, in collaboration with Planning Commission, the potential employment in the health sector in 2010 is 26,02,440 against 12,50,000 in 2004;
- (d) if so, the comprehensive plan proposed to be undertaken by the Government to meet the said target by 2010; and
- (e) the measures taken under National Rural Health Mission to address the problem?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN)

(a): Yes Sir. Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan states that at present, our healthcare system suffers from a severe shortage of trained personnel. Across states, 6% - 30% posts of doctors remain vacant.

(b): According to the Bulletin on Rural Health Statistics in India, 2006, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, as on September, 2005, the overall total shortfall in the posts of Health Worker (Female) / ANM was 19311. Similarly, in case of Health Worker (Male), there was a shortfall of 64211. In case of Health Assistant (Female) / LHV, the shortfall was of 4214 and that of Health Assistant (Male) was 5290.

Even out of the sanctioned posts, a significant percentage of posts are vacant at all the levels. For instance, about 4.7% of the sanctioned posts of Health Worker (Female)/ANM were vacant as compared to about 24% of the sanctioned posts of Health Worker (Male).

At PHC, about 13.1% of the sanctioned posts of Female Health Assistant / LHV, 25.4% of Male Health Assistant and 17.4% of the sanctioned posts of doctors were vacant. At the Sub Centre level, about 4.77% were without a Female Health Worker/ANM, about 39.2% were without a Male Health Worker and about 2.78% were without both Female & Male Health Worker, which shows a large shortfall in the number of health workers.

(c): Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), in collaboration with Planning Commission has prepared a document 'Sectoral Growth and Employment in the 11th Plan.' Healthcare is one of the sectors analyzed and examined and the employment potential has been estimated. As per exercise undertaken by the CII, the potential employment in Healthcare Sector in 2010 is 26,02,440 against 12,50,000 in 2004.

(d): In the context of the formulation of the Eleventh Five Year Plan, Planning Commission has constituted 11 Working Groups and four Steering Committees and Task Force on Planning for Human Resources in the Health Sector. Based on the recommendations of the Steering Committees, the 11th Five Year Plan inter alia will look into all aspects relating to Health Care including manpower requirement.

(e): The framework for implementation of National Rural Health Mission (2005-2012) indicates about the measures to be taken to meet the human resource needs which include engaging more para-medics and doctors to meet the growing health care needs in rural areas, compulsory rural postings / Rural Health Service, incentives for difficult areas and system for career progression that categorizes postings into different grades.

The NRHM is also focusing on the key shortages of Anesthetists, Gynecologists, Surgeons, Pediatricians, etc. alongside strengthening of diagnostic facilities and regular in-service training which ensures that skills and motivation levels of all staff are periodically assessed and upgraded.