

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:236  
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2007  
DOCTOR PATIENT RATIO  
Subbarayan Shri K.

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

- (a) the present doctor-patient ratio in urban as well as rural areas of the country; and
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to improve the situation?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 236 FOR 14TH MARCH, 2007

The data relating to the doctor-patient ratio is not centrally maintained. However, 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 i.e. indoor/ outdoor. According to the Medical Council of India, the allopathic doctor-population ratio at present works out to 1:1722. In addition, there are more than 6 lakhs practitioners of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy in the country. Taking all these numbers together, the doctor-population ratio comes to more than 128 doctors per lakh population. There are 262 medical colleges in the country with annual intake of 29, 872 students who add up to the existing medical manpower. The National Rural Health Mission has been operationalised with the main aim of providing accessible and reliable primary health care facilities especially to the poor and the vulnerable sections of the population.