

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:444

ANSWERED ON:20.11.2009

DOCTOR PATIENTS RATIO

Balram Shri P.;Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

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

- (a) whether at present there is only one doctor for every 1500 patients in rural and urban areas in India whereas the World Health Organisation recommends one doctor for every 250 patients in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the reasons for the same;
- (c) whether the Government is going to bring a special MBBS course to create more rural doctors;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to attract more doctors in rural areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) & (b) The doctor patient ratio varies from case to case depending upon various factors like type of diseases, nature of specialization, type of treatment required i.e. indoor/outdoor. As per information furnished by Medical Council of India, the total number of registered allopathic doctors in the country is 7, 48,757. Thus the percentage of allopathic doctor in proportion to population at present works out to 0.06% approximately and the allopathic doctors population ratio works out to 1:1584 approximately. In addition there are more than six lakh practitioners of Indian system of Medicine and Homoeopathy. Taking all these number together, the percentage of doctors with respect to population is 0.11% and the doctor population ratio comes to 1:860 approximately. Currently, there are 300 medical colleges in the country for teaching modern system of medicine with annual intake of 35, 252 who add up to the existing medical manpower.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise

(e) 50% of the seats in Post Graduate Diploma Courses are reserved for Medical Officers in the Government service who have served for at least three years in remote and difficult areas. After acquiring the PG Diploma, the Medical Officers shall serve for two more years in remote and/or difficult areas.

Further, in determining the merit and the entrance test for postgraduate admission weightage in the marks will be given as an incentive at the rate of 10% of the marks obtained for each year in service in remote or difficult areas upto the maximum of 30% of the marks obtained.