

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 930
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND JULY, 2022**

SHORTAGE OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

**930 SHRI VIVEK NARAYAN SHEJWALKAR:
SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR (ALIAS) VIJAY VASANTH:
SHRI DHARAMBIR SINGH:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:
SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAM SHRANGARE:
SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:
SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA:
SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:
SHRI ANURAG SHARMA:
SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA:
SHRI RANJEETSINGH HINDURAO NAIK NIMBALKAR:
DR. T. SUMATHY (a) THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN:**

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

- (a) the details of allopathic doctors and nurses registered and their actual requirement State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether there is dearth of doctors/nurses/other paramedics in the country, if so, the details thereof along with positions lying vacant and its impact on healthcare system in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the details of present norms regarding doctor-patients ratio, Nurse-patient, hospitals beds-patients ratio along with the steps taken to bridge these gaps as recommended by the WHO and UN Health indices;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to fill up all vacant PG medical seats and increase number of medical colleges and seats in allied institutions to meet the shortage of doctors and paramedics in a time bound manner and if so, the details thereof along with steps taken in this regard, State/UT-wise;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to bring in a national policy making it mandatory for all PG/MBBS doctors to work in rural areas for three years, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to cater the underserved regions/people in the country?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (f): As per information provided by National Medical Commission (NMC), there are 13,08,009 allopathic doctors registered with the State Medical Councils and the National Medical Commission (NMC) as on June, 2022. Assuming 80% availability of registered

allopathic doctors and 5.65 lakh AYUSH doctors, the doctor-population ratio in the country is 1:834 which is better than the WHO standard of 1:1000. Also, there are 34.33 lakh registered nursing personnel and 13 lakh Allied and Healthcare Professionals in the country.

To ensure that PG medical seats are not left vacant, the Government has reduced the benchmark percentile for admission in PG Degree & Diploma courses and the counselling for all India quota PG (Broad Specialty) seats has been increased to four rounds from the year 2021.

For making rapid growth in the number of allied medical seats in the country, the Government has enacted National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions (NCAHP) Act, 2021 and an Interim Commission has been notified under the provisions of NCAHP Act, 2021.

The primary responsibility for administering health personnel and availability of sufficient number of beds as per need in Government hospitals lies with the concerned State Government. As per the information published in National Health Profile (NHP), 2021, the details of beds State/ UT wise may be seen at page No. 417, Table No. 6.2.2 with the help of link namely <https://www.cbhidghs.nic.in/showfile.php?lid=1160>.

The Government has taken following steps to further increase the availability of doctors in the country, particularly in underserved regions. The number of UG seats have increased from 51,348 before 2014 to 91927 seats as on date which is an increase of 79%. The numbers of PG seats have increased by 93% from 31,185 seats before 2014 to 60202 seats.

The steps to increase doctor-patients ratio include:-

- i. Centrally Sponsored Scheme for establishment of new medical college by upgrading district/ referral hospital under which 157 new medical colleges have been approved and 72 are already functional.
- ii. Centrally Sponsored Scheme for strengthening/ upgradation of existing State Government/Central Government Medical Colleges to increase MBBS and PG seats.
- iii. Central Sector Scheme for upgradation of Government Medical Colleges by construction of Super Specialty Blocks. A total of 75 projects have been approved and 55 have been completed.
- iv. Under Central Sector Scheme for setting up of new AIIMS, 22 AIIMS have been approved. Undergraduate courses have started in 19 AIIMS.
- v. Relaxation in the norms for setting up of Medical College in terms of requirement for faculty, staff, bed strength and other infrastructure.
- vi. DNB qualification has been recognized for appointment as faculty to take care of shortage of faculty.

vii. Enhancement of age limit for appointment/ extension/ re-employment against posts of teachers/dean/principal/ director in medical colleges upto 70 years.

viii. The tenure of Senior Residency for appointment of Assistant Professor have reduced from three year to one year.

ix. Under the District Residency Programme (DRP), all the doctors admitted to PG courses from 2022 onwards, to serve in the district hospitals for three months mandatorily.

The Government has also taken the following steps to increase the Nurse-patient ratio in the country:-

(i) For Nursing Educational Programmes Student patient ratio has been relaxed from 1:5 to 1:3.

(ii) The land requirement for Nursing Educational Institutes from 3 acres has been relaxed to construct building of 54,000 sq. ft. for School/College of Nursing including Hostel.

(iii) To open GNM and B.Sc. (Nursing) programme 100 bedded parent hospital is essential since 2013-2014. However, this is relaxed for hilly and tribal areas.

(iv) Relaxed norms for teaching faculty to start B.Sc. (N) Programme.

(v) Super speciality Hospital can start M.Sc. (N) without having under graduate programme.

(vi) Maximum of 100 seats will be granted to the institutions for B.Sc.(N)/GNM programmes which are having parent hospital with 300 beds without insisting on Medical College.

(vii) Distance from school to hospital has been relaxed.

(viii) Eligibility Criteria for admission to nursing programmes relaxed.
