

**Regarding need to enact a law to deal with mismatch between medical facilities available in rural and urban areas-laid**

**SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE (BARPETA):** Medical facilities available in the country, is less compared to the population. There is also a huge mismatch of medical facilities available in big cities and towns in comparison to villages and rural areas where maximum percentage of population resides. Providing medical facilities in a country like ours is a huge challenge but we need solution. People from villages and backward areas cannot afford costly medical facilities away from home. Even if a few can afford, situation may not permit them time to reach a city. There is a need to provide good doctors in villages and far off places. But unfortunately, there are very few doctors who are there to serve them. To reduce this shortfall, medical students who have cleared the final MBBS examination should serve a mandatory three years service in villages and rural areas before they are awarded the degree. Even those who acquire MBBS degree from abroad and clear the MCI exam should also be included. This is possibly the best way to minimise the imbalance in health care. Therefore, I urge upon the Minister of Health and Family Welfare to bring a law in this regard as this will bring a huge difference in rural health care.