

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3120  
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2004  
DOCTOR PATIENT RATIO IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS  
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

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

- (a) whether there is large scale shortage of doctors and paramedics in the Government hospitals as reported in the `Times of India`, July 28, 2004;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to bridge the gap of doctor-patients ratio in Government hospitals in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c): There is a shortage of doctors and para-medics in Central Government Hospitals due to application of Government instructions on downsizing under which the Department is allowed to fill up only 1/3rd of the vacancies arising in a year subject to 1% of the total sanctioned strength. The matter has been taken up at the highest level to seek exemption from applicability of the Govt. instructions so that the vacant posts in Central Government hospitals are filled up. The data in regard to doctor patient ratio in various State Government hospitals is not maintained Centrally.