

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:252  
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2008  
DEVELOPMENT OF NURSING SERVICES  
Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

- (a) whether nursing sector is critical in the health care delivery system as reported in the Hindu dated January, 23, 2008;
- (b) if so, the details of the facts reported therein;
- (c) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to introduce new schemes under the Development of Nursing Services Scheme to overcome the shortage of nurses in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (a) whether there is any proposal to open more Nursing colleges across the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof location wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (e) Nurses are the largest work force of health care delivery system cycle. Nursing personnel are also frontline health care providers in the community. Their role and significance has grown immensely with introduction of primary health care services and health for all strategies. In order to meet the shortage of nurses in the country it is proposed to start a new scheme of Development of Nursing Services (Human Resource). The proposal in the scheme envisages establishment of Centers of Excellence in 24 States, strengthening of State Nursing Councils and Nursing Cells in 17 States, opening of 145 ANM and 137 GNM Schools, establishment of 6 Colleges of Nursing and 4 Regional Institutes of Nursing.

(f) Proposed locations for opening of more nursing colleges under the scheme is given in Annexure.