

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:333
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2008
DOCTOR PATIENT RATIO
Khairi Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

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

- (a) whether the Doctor-Patient ratio in the urban and rural areas has increased as compared to that of 2007;
- (b) if so, the details of the comparative figures thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the situation, especially in the rural areas?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) The data relating to the doctor-patient ratio in urban and rural areas is not centrally maintained. However, the doctor-patient ratio varies from case to case depending upon various factors like the type of disease, nature of specialization, type of patient-care required i.e. indoor/ outdoor. As per Medical council of India the total number of registered allopathic doctors in the country is 6,83,582. Thus the allopathic doctor-population ratio works out to 1:1634. In addition, there are more than 6 lakhs practitioners of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy in the country. Taking all the data into account, the doctor-population ratio would be 1:870. There are 271 medical colleges in the country with annual intake of 31,172 students who add up to the existing medical manpower. The National Rural Health Mission has been operationalised with the main aim of providing accessible and reliable primary health care facilities especially to the poor and the vulnerable sections of the population.