

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1376
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2010
CASES OF BRONCHITIS
Choudhry Smt. Shruti

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

- (a) whether a large number of persons particularly children are suffering from bronchitis and other respiratory ailments in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of such patients in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether there is lack of specialization and research facilities in the field of respiratory and chest related diseases in the country, and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) & (b) As per the ICMR task force study on Asthma, approx 35-40 millions persons suffer from chronic bronchitis and asthma in the country & State/UT- wise figures are not maintained.

(c) & (d) There is shortage of specialists in the country, specially in Tuberculosis and respiratory diseases. In order to increase the number of Post Graduate (PG) seats in various specialties, the Central Government has revised the teacher student ratio from 1:1 to 1:2 to enable the medical colleges to increase seats in postgraduate medical courses. As a result of these revised norms, approximately 4000 PG seats are envisaged to be added in the medical colleges/institutes.