

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1140
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2010
HEALTH CONSCIOUSNESS AMONG PEOPLE
Singh Shri Bhola

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

(a) whether the number of hospitals and doctors have not been increased in comparison of the rise in number of patients in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the shortage of hospitals and doctors?

Answer

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

(a): Health being a State subject, the data in regard to doctor-patient ratio in various hospitals is not maintained centrally.

(b): The Central Government has taken steps to increase the number of medical practitioners by amending the norms of Medical Council of India for facilitating opening of more medical colleges.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), the Government is setting up 8 AIIMS-like institutions and upgrading 19 existing Government medical college institutions to augment quality medical education and to improve tertiary healthcare facilities in various parts of the country. In addition, under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), the Government is providing assistance to State Governments for opening Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres. All these efforts would provide availability of more doctors and improve accessibility of quality healthcare to the people.