

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2434

ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009

DOCTOR-PATIENT RATIO

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

- (a) the doctor-patient ratio in the country at present as compared to some of the developed countries in the world;
- (b) the doctor-patient ratio in the urban and rural areas of the country separately during the last three years, yearwise;
- (c) the steps being taken to improve the situation specially in the rural areas;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to generate employment opportunities for doctors and para-medics during the current year;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) As per information furnished by Medical Council of India, allopathic doctors population ratio works out to 1:1584 approximately. In addition there more than six lakh practitioners of Indian system of medicine and Homoeopathy. Taking all these number together, the doctor population ratio comes to 1:860 approximately.

(b): In last three years the doctor-patient ratio including allopathic doctors and homeopathic doctors has been as follows:-

Year Doctor Patient Ratio (Approximately)

2006 1:870

2007 1:870

2008 1:860

The separate details for rural and urban areas are not maintained.

(c):The National Rural Health Mission has been operationalised with the aim of providing accessible and reliable primary health care facilities especially to poor and the vulnerable section of the population.

(d) to (f):

(i) Medical Council of India Regulations are reviewed with regard to land requirement, teacher-student ratio and introduction of public-private partnership which will facilitate starting of more medical colleges.

(ii) The National Rural Health Mission has been operationalised with the aim of providing accessible and reliable primary health care facilities especially to poor and the vulnerable section of the population.

(iii) Establishment of Auxiliary Nurse Midwifery (ANM) and General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM) schools in those districts which are not having both these training programmes.

(iv) Establishment of post graduation Nursing (M.Sc Nursing) Institutions.

(v) There are 908 Pharmacy Institutions with an intake of 54133 students per annum and a new course namely Pharm. D of 6 years duration from 2008-09 academic session as registerable qualification under the Pharmacy Act has been introduced.