

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3872

ANSWERED ON:27.04.2012

OPENING OF SATELLITE CLINICS AND DENTAL COLLEGES

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

- (a) the number of dental colleges in the country indicating the number of UG/PG/Specialisation seats therein, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the steps taken/proposed and locations identified for the setting up of new dental colleges, particularly in the rural and remote areas across the country;
- (c) whether the Dental Council of India (DCI) has recently revised curriculum to support a rural outreach dental programme and urged all dental colleges to set up satellite clinics in remote areas for the purpose;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the extent to which opening of satellite clinics is likely to ameliorate oral healthcare of rural people?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

- (a) At present, there are 291 dental colleges in the country with an annual intake of 23800 BDS admissions and 4604 MDS admissions. The State/ UT wise list indicating BDS and MDS seats is at Annexure.
- (b) The Central Government itself has no proposal to set up new dental college in the rural or remote areas. However, as per the provisions of the Dentists (Amendment) Act 1948, the State Government/University/ Society may apply to set up a new dental college in the rural or remote areas along with Essentiality Certificate issued by the State Government which certifies the feasibility and desirability of opening of a new dental college at a particular location.
- (c) to (e) A one-year compulsory rotational Internship programme for dental students has been re-introduced to provide adequate clinical exposure to the students during their internship period including three months period for dental health problems of the rural people. Further all the dental colleges have been requested to set up satellite clinics in remote areas for rendering dental health care services to the people and for improving the awareness and knowledge of the people on preventing aspects of Oral Health component. Besides Dental Council of India has requested State/UTs to strengthen sub-centres, PHCs & CHCs by setting up a small unit consisting of one or two Oral Dental Surgeons with requisite equipments particularly in rural/remote settings.