

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4403
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2012
HOSPITALS IN RURAL AREAS
Pakirappa Shri S.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is shortage of the doctors and adequate health facilities at railway hospitals in the rural areas across the country;
- (b) if so, the measures taken by the Railways to address the problem;
- (c) the number of posts of doctors lying vacant in railway hospitals in rural areas and steps taken to fill them expeditiously;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to make it mandatory for doctors to serve in rural areas for a certain period of service and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the action taken to provide adequate health facilities at the said railway hospitals?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) to (e) Vacancies of doctors in Railways, including in Railway Hospital in rural areas, are filled up by posting Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) selected doctors. Short term vacancies are being filled up by appointing Contract Medical Practitioners or by deputing doctors from near-by Railway Hospitals ensuring continuous availability of doctors in these Health Units. All Health Units have adequate availability of medicines. X-ray and Lab facilities are made available on basis of outsourcing. Instructions have been issued to provide 20 Medical Road Mobile Vans at different locations to provide easy access to medical facilities in remote & inaccessible areas. Presently there is no fixed tenure of rural posting for doctors as services are being satisfactorily managed by need based transfer and posting of doctors.