

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6125  
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2013  
SHORTAGE OF PAEDIATRICIAN IN ART CENTRES  
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**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of shortage of paediatrician in the Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) centres across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the shortage, State/UT-wise; and
- (c) the corrective measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): There is no shortage of pediatricians in the ART Centres located in medical colleges/District Hospitals. In some of the ART Centres at sub-district level or below, a pediatrician may not be there. State wise information of ART Centres with paediatricians is annexed.

All medical officers at ART Centres are trained to deliver Antiretroviral treatment to both adults and paediatric patients. For complicated cases, the ART centres without paediatrician refer the patients to ART Plus centres. In addition, 7 Paediatric Centres of Excellence have also been established in the country for specialized paediatric care, training of doctors in paediatric care and research related to paediatric HIV. These 7 Centres of Excellence are:

1. Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health (IGICH), Bangalore, Karnataka
2. Institute of Child Health (ICH), Chennai, Tamil Nadu
3. Lokmanya Tilak Municipal General Hospital (Sion), Mumbai, Maharashtra
4. Calcutta Medical College, Kolkata, West Bengal
5. Niloufer Children's Hospital, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
6. Kalawati Saran Children's Hospital/Lady Harding Medical College, Delhi
7. Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital (JN), Imphal, Manipur