

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2033
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2013
DOCTOR POPULATION RATIO
Baske Shri Pulin Bihar

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

- (a) the ratio of doctors at hospitals in proportion to population in the country particularly in rural areas, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the doctor-population ratio is the lowest as compared to certain other Developing/Developed countries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to review the strength of doctors;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to address the issue?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) As per World Health Statistics 2012, there are 6.5 doctors for every 10,000 population in India.

The global average of the doctor-population ratio (for every 10,000 population) is 14.2. The ratio for some of the Developing / Developed countries is given below:

Country	doctor - population ratio (per 10,000 population)
Brazil	17.6
China	14.2
Russia	43.1
Sri Lanka	4.9
United States of America	24.2

(d) to (f) The Government has taken number of steps to address shortage of doctors, specialists and faculty in the country which include;

- i. Relaxation of norms for setting up a medical college in terms of requirement for land, faculty, staff, bed strength/bed occupancy and other infrastructure.
- ii. Relaxation of teacher-student ratio to increase the seats at Postgraduate level.
- iii. Recognition of DNB qualifications for appointment to various faculty posts in medical colleges.
- iv. Increase of maximum intake capacity at MBBS level from 150 to 250.
- v. Enhancement of age limit for appointment/ extension / re-employment against posts of teachers / dean / principal / director in medical colleges from 65 to 70 years.
- vii. Provision for financial support to State medical colleges under the scheme 'Strengthening and Upgradation of State Government Medical Colleges', to increase postgraduate seats in various disciplines or start new postgraduate medical courses.