

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1313  
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013  
SHORTAGE OF VETERINARY DOCTORS  
Rajendran Shri C.

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there has been acute shortage of veterinary doctors in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of veterinary doctors who passed out each year during the last two years; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the number of veterinary doctors in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (Dr. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a) to (c) As against the estimated requirement of 67200 Veterinary doctors in the country, there are 62345 registered veterinary practitioners, as per the entries made in the Indian Veterinary Practitioners Register (IVPR) maintained by Veterinary Council of India.

During the last two years, 2997 Veterinary graduates have been registered in the IVPR under the Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984 as reported by Veterinary Council of India. The detailed break up is as under :-

Year	Number of Registered graduates
2011-12	1477
2012-13	1520
Total	2997

Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Govt. of India regulates veterinary practice through Veterinary Council of India (VCI). VCI is mandated to maintain the Indian Veterinary Practitioners' Register (IVPR) containing the names of the persons who possess recognized Veterinary qualification (Degree in Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry). Veterinary training and practice is a State subject. Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries does not have the mandate to open Veterinary Colleges to meet any shortfall in the requirement of veterinary doctors in the country. However, as per Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries confers recognition to veterinary qualifications awarded by veterinary institutions, on the recommendation of Veterinary Council of India.