GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:273
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2013
MIGRATION OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated number of Indian doctors, nurses and health professionals presently working abroad;
- (b) whether the Government has taken note of migration of large number of doctors, nurses and other health professionals from the country and if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the number of doctors, nurses and health professionals migrated to other countries during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (d) whether the Government has received any proposal/representation in this regard and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken/ proposed by the Government to arrest this trend and provide incentives to bring these doctors, nurses and health professionals back to the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEATH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

- (a) & (b): The Government is aware that large number of doctors, nurses and other health professionals migrate to other countries either for pursuing higher studies or for employment. However, no specific information regarding number of Indian doctors, nurses and health professionals working abroad is available with the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- (c): The doctors, registered with Medical Council of India (MCI), who go abroad for pursuing courses or for employment need to obtain Good Standing Certificates (GSCs) from MCI. As per information furnished by MCI, only 1132 GSCs were issued in the year 2010-2011, 1339 GSCs were issued in the year 2011-2012 and 1208 were issued GSCs in 2012-2013. The data relating nurses and other health professionals is not available with the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- (d) & (e): As informed above, the Government is aware of this trend. In order to arrest this trend in respect of doctors working under Government Sector, the following steps have been taken by the Central Government:
- (i) Pay and allowances of doctors have been enhanced considerably after implementation of the 6th Central Pay Commission.
- (ii) The age of superannuation of faculty of medical institutions has been enhanced to 65 years.
- (iii) Assured Promotion Scheme for faculty of Central Government Institutions has been revised to make it more beneficial.
- (iv) Various allowances available to faculty like Non Practicing Allowance, Conveyance Allowance, Learning Resource Allowance, etc. have been enhanced considerably.