

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1482

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2013

HEALTH CENTRES

Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Bauri Smt. Susmita;Bhujbal Shri Sameer ;Chaudhary Shri Arvind Kumar;Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni;Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan ;Putul Kumari Smt. ;Ram Shri Purnmasi;Sardinha Shri Francisco;Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B. ;Singh Sarika;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

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

- (a) the criteria/procedure laid down by the Government for setting up of health centres/district hospitals in the country in rural areas;
- (b) the number of health centres/district hospitals required for patients as per rural population, hospital and State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether there is a shortfall of health centres/district hospitals in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard, hospital and State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for providing better quality and easy access to healthcare services at affordable cost in the country?

**Answer**

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

(a): The population norms laid down for setting up of public health infrastructure in rural areas under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) are as follows:

Public Health Facility	Population Norms	
	Plain Area	Hilly/Tribal/Difficult Area
Sub-Centre	5000	3000
Primary Health Centre	30,000	20,000
Community Health Centre	1,20,000	80,000

In addition, a norm of 'Time to care' has been recently adopted under which a Sub Centre can be set up within 30 minutes by walk from habitations in selected districts of hilly states and desert areas.

As regards District Hospitals, there is no well defined criterion. However, each district could have at least one District level Hospital.

(b) to (d): A state-wise Statement regarding the number of health centres required, in-position and shortfall as per rural population as on 31st March, 2012 as per Rural Health Statistic, 2012 is placed at Annexure.

Public Health is a State subject. Under NRHM, financial support is provided to States/UT governments to strengthen their health care system including establishment/up-gradation/ renovation of health infrastructure as per the requirements posed by State/UT governments in their Programme Implementation Plans

(e): Public Health is State subject, Government provides financial and technical support to State/UT governments for providing better quality and easy access to healthcare services at affordable cost under National Health Mission (NHM).