

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:151

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2013

RURAL MEDICAL SERVICES

Singh Shri Bhupendra ;Sukur Shri Jadhav Baliram

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

- (a) whether there is scarcity of medical professionals to provide medical facilities in the rural and remote areas of the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has assessed the shortfall of doctors, specialists and paramedics for the purpose, if so, the details and the outcome thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to make it mandatory for MBBS doctors to undergo one year rural posting to appear in the post graduation entrance examination;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed by the Government to address the concern of various stakeholders in this regard; and
- (e) the other measures taken/proposed by the Government to incentivise rural medical services in the country?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 151 FOR 16TH AUGUST, 2013

(a)&(b) As per Rural Health Statistics in India, 2012, the State/UT wise statement showing the shortfall of doctors, specialists and paramedics at Sub-Centres (SCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Community Health Centres (CHCs) is placed at Annexure I to VIII.

(c)&(d) The Central Government has amended the Post Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2000, to make one year rural posting in a PHC mandatory for becoming eligible to take admission in Post Graduate course. The modalities of implementation of the Regulation were discussed with the State Health Secretaries in the meeting held in Srinagar on 3rd to 4th July, 2013.

(e) Public Health is a state subject. Financial support is provided to States/UTs under the National Rural Health Mission to strengthen their health systems including engagement of doctors, specialists and paramedics on contractual basis based on the requirement proposed by the States in their Programme Implementation Plans. The details of measures taken by the Central Government to encourage doctor/specialist to work in rural and remote areas include:

(i) Provision of financial support to state/UTs for providing additional incentives and higher remuneration to doctors and specialists to serve in rural areas and improved accommodation arrangements in rural areas.

(ii) amendment of the Post Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2000 to provide-

a) 50% reservation in Post Graduate Diploma Courses for Medical Officers in the Government service who have served for at least three years in remote and difficult areas; and

(b) incentive at the rate of 10% of the marks obtained for each year in service in remote or difficult areas up to the maximum of 30% of the marks obtained in the entrance test for admissions in Post Graduate Medical Courses