

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3379
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2014
PHARMACY EDUCATION
Adityanath Shri Yogi

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

- (a) the number of pharmacy degree colleges indicating the number of seats therein in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to raise the number of pharmacy degree colleges in the country;
- (c) whether the Government has drawn a road map to raise the quality of pharmacy education and make it simpler and accessible in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

- (a): A statement showing the State-wise number of pharmacy degree colleges with the number of seats is annexed.
 - (b) # A sum of Rs. 824.30 crores has been earmarked in the 12th Five Year Plan for setting up of pharmacy colleges in Government Medical Colleges.
If an institution applies, it has also been considered to increase admission capacity from 60 to 100 students in degree course in pharmacy.
 - (c) & d): The Government has taken the following steps with a view to improve the quality of pharmacy education in the country -
 1. Introduction of Pharm.D. Course which is an integrated course of 6 years duration and lays stress on pharmacy practice, explores the role of pharmacists, professionalism, dispensing, health of the individual and health care in our society.
 2. M.Pharm Regulations has been drafted. The curriculum will be competency based. The major components of the curriculum will be:
Theoretical knowledge # Practical /clinical skills # Thesis skills. # Attitudes including communication skills. # Training in research methodology.The basic goal and objective of M.Pharm Programme will be to produce professionally competent pharmacists' work force.
 - 3. B.Pharm Regulations has been drafted with emphasis on quality assurance, validation procedures regarding quality of equipment and techniques, good manufacturing practices, good pharmacy practices etc. to produce a competent work force for the country for effective delivery of health care services.
- While designing the course curriculum inputs are taken from various sectors of pharmacy profession.
4. In order to raise the quality of education in the country it has been proposed to upgrade the minimum registrable qualification from diploma to degree in pharmacy. However, presently the Education Regulations, 1991 for the Diploma Course in Pharmacy are under revision.
 5. In order to use the wide pharmacy practice experience of diploma holders and to give them an opportunity to upgrade their qualification to B.Pharm, Bridge course regulations has been drafted with emphasis on practice aspects of pharmaceutical sciences. This will raise the competency of diploma pharmacist.
 6. In order to ensure that teaching faculty appointed by the pharmacy institutions possesses prescribed qualification and experience, it has been proposed the regulations called "Minimum Qualification for Teachers in Pharmacy Institutions Regulations". The said regulations not only prescribe the qualification and experience of teaching staff but also make the provisions for code of conduct.
 7. In order to update the knowledge of pharmacists in line with the advancements in the field of pharmaceutical sciences, financial support to the State Pharmacy Councils for conducting Continuing Education Programmes in the country is extended.
 8. The Government is also in the process of framing the training modules for pharmacy teachers to train the trainers for effective implementation of course curriculum to raise the standards of pharmaceutical education in the country.