

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO02.03.2010**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**SHORTAGE OF DOCTORS AND PARAMEDICS .**

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Dr. Ram Prakash

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

- (a) whether there is shortage of doctors and supporting staff in health centres as per norms of National Rural Health Mission (NRHM);
- (b) if so, the reasons for the State Governments not filling up the posts sanctioned under NRHM;
- (c) whether Government has any plans to provide full induction training to Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) to get their full services in health centres all over the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE

(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (b) : Yes. As on March, 2008, as per the Bulletin of Rural Health Statistics, there are 4279 Specialists doctors in position at Community Health Centres [CHCs] and 24375 doctors are in position at Primary Health Centres [PHCs] in rural areas across the country. Besides, there are a total of 20956 Pharmacists, 12886 Laboratory Technicians, 44936 Nurse Midwife/Staff Nurses available at Primary Health Centres and CHCs across the country. Under National Rural Health Mission [NRHM], the following contractual staff has been added as on 31st January, 2010 :

-Specialists at Community Health Centres : 2460 - Specialists at levels other than Community Health Centres : 4613 -GDMOs at various levels -8624 -Paramedics- 14490 -Staff Nurses -26793 "Health" being the state subject, filling up of posts is the responsibility of concerned State/UT Governments.

(c) to (d) : Yes. The induction training of ASHA is for 23 days spread in five rounds over a period of 12 months to be followed by periodic re-training modules based on thematic approach. Five modules have already been developed and disseminated to the States. The States have adopted the same as per their local needs.