

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2820
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH MARCH, 2018**

SHORTAGE OF DOCTORS

2820. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

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

(a) whether Government is aware of severe shortage of doctors in the public health sector in India, if so, the State-wise data regarding shortage of doctors; and

(b) what steps have been taken by Government to rectify the problems and the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b): Public health is a State subject, the data regarding shortage of doctors is not maintained centrally.

As per information provided by Medical Council of India (MCI), there are a total 10,41,395 allopathic doctors registered with the State Medical Councils/Medical Council of India as on 31st December, 2017. Assuming 80% availability, it is estimated that around 8.33 lakh doctors may be actually available for active service. It gives a doctor-population ratio of 1:1596 as per current population estimate of 1.33 billion against the World Health Organization (WHO) norm of 1:1000. State – wise details of doctors registered with State Medical Councils / Medical Council of India are annexed herewith.

To encourage doctors working in remote and difficult areas, the MCI with the previous approval of Central Government, has amended the Post Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2000 to provide :-

(i) 50% of the seats in Post Graduate Diploma Courses shall be reserved for Medical Officers in the Government services, who have served for at least three years in remote and difficult areas. After acquiring the PG Diploma, the Medical Officers shall serve for two more years in remote and/or difficult areas; and

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(ii) Incentive at the rate of 10% of marks for each year in service in remote or difficult areas upto a maximum of 30% of the marks obtained in the entrance test for admissions in Post Graduate Medical Courses. Further, under National Health Mission (NHM), financial incentive is also provided to MBBS as well as PG doctors for serving in rural areas. These incentives are over and above the salaries of the doctors concerned.

Under NHM, financial and technical support is provided to States/UTs to strengthen their healthcare systems including support for engagement of doctors/staff on contractual basis, based on the requirements posed by them in their Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) within the overall resource envelope.

The States are encouraged to adopt flexible norms for engaging specialists at public health facilities. These include various mechanisms for 'contracting in' and 'contracting out' of specialist services, methods of engaging specialists outside the government system for service delivery at public facilities and the mechanism to include requests for these in the state PIP under the National Health Mission.

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Annexure

**Number of Doctors Registered with State Medical Councils / Medical Council of India as
on 31st December, 2017**

Sr.	Name of the Medical Council	Number of Doctors
1.	Andhra Pradesh Medical Council	86129
2.	Arunachal Pradesh Medical Council	840
3.	Assam Medical Council	22532
4.	Bihar Medical Council	40043
5.	Chattisgarh Medical Council	6915
6.	Delhi Medical Council	16176
7.	Goa Medical Council	3367
8.	Gujarat Medical Council	53954
9.	Haryana Dental & Medical Council	5717
10.	Himachal Pradesh Medical Council	2849
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	14326
12.	Jharkhand Medical Council	5093
13.	Karnataka Medical Council	104794
14.	Madhya Pradesh Medical Council	34347
15.	Maharashtra Medical Council	153513
16.	Medical Council of India	52666
17.	Nagaland Medical Council	801
18.	Orissa Council of Medical Registration	21681
19.	Punjab Medical Council	44682
20.	Rajasthan Medical Council	40559
21.	Sikkim Medical Council	893
22.	Tamil Nadu Medical Council	126399
23.	Travancore Medical Council	55251
24.	Uttar Pradesh Medical Council	71480
25.	Uttarakhand Medical Council	7060
26.	West Bengal Medical Council	66974
27.	Tripura Medical Council	0
28.	Telangana Medical Council	2354
	Total	10,41,395

*The other State / UTs do not have their own Medical Registration Council.
Hence, their workers get registration with the Councils of other neighbouring States.