

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2184
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8th AUGUST, 2023**

SHORTAGE OF SPECIALIST DOCTORS IN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRES

2184. DR. V. SIVADASAN:

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

- (a) the details of shortage of specialist doctors in Community Health Centres (CHCs) across the country;
- (b) the percentage of shortfall faced by CHCs of specialist doctors according to the estimates of Rural Health Statistics Report 2023;
- (c) if so, the details of the shortfall in each specialisation;
- (d) the details of the reasons for this huge shortfall; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken to address it?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (e): The details of specialist doctors in the Community Health Centres (CHCs) across the country are available at website of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare at the Uniform Resources Locator (URL) as under: https://main.mohfw.gov.in/sites/default/files/RHS%202021-22_2.pdf

All the administrative and personnel matters related to health human resource lies with the respective State/UT Governments. Under National Health Mission, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare provides financial and technical support to States/UTs to strengthen their healthcare systems based on the requirements posed by them in their Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) within their overall resource envelope.

Under NHM, following types of incentives and honorarium are provided for encouraging specialist doctors to practice in rural and remote areas of the country:

- Hard area allowance to specialist doctors for serving in rural and remote areas and for their residential quarters so that they find it attractive to serve in public health facilities in such areas.
- Honorarium to Gynecologists/ Emergency Obstetric Care (EmoC) trained, Pediatricians & Anesthetist/ Life Saving Anaesthesia Skills (LSAS) trained doctors is also provided to increase availability of specialists for conducting Cesarean Sections in rural & remote area.
- Incentives like special incentives for doctors, incentive for ANM for ensuring timely ANC checkup and recording, incentives for conducting Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health activities.
- States are also allowed to offer negotiable salary to attract specialist including flexibility in strategies such as “You Quote We Pay”.
- Non-Monetary incentives such as preferential admission in post graduate courses for staff serving in difficult areas and improving accommodation arrangement in rural areas have also been introduced under NHM.
- Multi-skilling of doctors is supported under NHM to overcome the shortage of specialists. Skill upgradation of existing HR is another major strategy under NRHM for achieving improvement in health outcomes.
