

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1870
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05TH AUGUST, 2025**

REVOLUTIONIZING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

1870. DR. SIKANDER KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any efforts to expand paramedical education to address the shortage of trained healthcare professionals in Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to articulate any scheme for improving the maintenance and equipping of ambulances with essential medical supplies in Himachal Pradesh, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the strategy framed to manage a shortage of ambulances and related staff, impacting emergency healthcare services, especially in rural and remote areas in Himachal Pradesh?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) & (b): Appointment/recruitment of allied and healthcare/paramedical staff is primarily the responsibility of State Governments. However, the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Profession (NCAHP) has been constituted, inter-alia, for regulation and maintenance of standards of education and services by allied and healthcare professionals listed under the Schedule of NCAHP Act, 2021. State Allied and Healthcare Council has been constituted in the State of Himachal Pradesh under the Act.

(c) & (d): National Ambulance Services (NAS) under NHM was launched in the year 2012. Two types of ambulance services 108 (Advanced Life Support/ Basic Life Support) and 102 were launched. Dial 108 is predominantly an emergency response system, primarily designed to attend to critical care patients, trauma, accident victims, etc. Dial 102 services essentially consists of basic patient transport aimed to cater the needs of pregnant women and children though other categories are also taking benefit and are not excluded.

As per NHM norms, one ambulance (BLS) per 100,000 population and one ALS per 500,000 population is provided. Emergency services like 102 and 108 are GPS-tracked and performance-monitored. Some states use bike and boat ambulances in remote areas. Under NHM, a total of 25 Advanced Life Support (ALS), 173 Basic Life Support (BLS) and 150 Patient Transport Vehicle (PTV) are being operated in Himachal Pradesh as per NHM, MIS on 31st December, 2024.

Under Central Sector Scheme “Human Resource Development for Emergency Medical Services”(HRDEMS) provisions exist for imparting skill-based trainings in emergency life support through standardized National Emergency Life Support (NELS) course modules for different categories of health functionaries including paramedics.
