

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. - 269
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st JULY, 2026**

AVAILABILITY OF DOCTORS IN MAHARASHTRA

269 : SHRI DHANANJAY BHIMRAO MAHADIK:

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

- (a) whether Government has reviewed the availability of doctors, specialists and nursing staff in Central health institutions and Government-supported facilities in Maharashtra;
- (b) the details of vacancies reported;
- (c) the steps taken to fill these vacancies; and
- (d) the measures adopted to strengthen healthcare services in rural and tribal districts?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (c): Public Health' & 'Hospitals' are State subjects. The primary responsibility of the availability of doctors and nurses in various public health facilities in rural and tribal areas lies with the respective State Governments.

Under National Health Mission (NHM), the performance of various health programmes including gaps in human resources in public healthcare facilities are regularly monitored in all the States/UTs, through review meetings, mid-term reviews of key deliverables, field visits of senior officials, promoting performance by setting up benchmarks for service delivery & rewarding achievements etc. Common Review Missions (CRM) are conducted annually to assess and monitor the progress and implementation status under the scheme.

Health Dynamics of India (HDI), is an annual publication, based on healthcare administrative data reported by States/UTs. Details of availability of doctors, specialists and nursing staff across the country including Maharashtra, State/UT-wise, may be accessed through the HMIS portal under Publications at the following link of HDI 2023-24: <https://hmis.mohfw.gov.in>

The Government of India supports the States/UTs in providing incentives and honorarium to medical professionals to improve service delivery in rural and remote areas. Under NHM, measures such as Hard Area Allowance for specialist doctors, flexibility to States to offer negotiable salaries including "You Quote We Pay", non-monetary incentives like preferential admission in postgraduate courses and multi-skilling of doctors through training in Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (CEmONC) and Life Saving Anaesthesia Skills (LSAS) are supported to address the shortage of specialists in such areas.

(d) Under National Health Mission (NHM), financial and technical support is provided to the States/UTs to strengthen their healthcare systems upto District Hospitals, based on the requirements posed by States/UTs in their Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) within their overall Resource Envelope. Government of India provides approval for the proposals in the form of Record of Proceedings (RoPs) as per norms & available resources.

A total of 1.86 lakh Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (AAMs) have been operationalized by strengthening Sub-health Centres (SHCs) and Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in the country. These AAMs provide preventive, promotive, rehabilitative and curative care for an expanded range of services. The AAMs incrementally provide 12 package of primary health care services across the country, including rural and tribal districts of Maharashtra, encompassing Reproductive and child care services, Communicable diseases, Non Communicable diseases (NCD), Palliative Care and elderly Care, Care for common mental disorders, neurological conditions (epilepsy, dementia) and substance use disorders management (tobacco, alcohol, drugs), Oral health, ENT care, and Basic emergency care.

Under NHM, norms have been relaxed for tribal/hilly/hard-to-reach areas to strengthen healthcare access. Population criteria for setting up of Sub Health Centres (SHCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Community Health Centres (CHCs) have been reduced to 3,000, 20,000 and 80,000 respectively. One Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) is allowed per habitation instead of per 1,000 population.

Under National Ambulance Service, 3,287 Advanced Life Support (ALS), 15,472 Basic Life Support (BLS), 3,912 Patient Transport Vehicle (PTV), 19 Boat Ambulances, 81 Bike Emergency Response Vehicles and 5,701 other empanelled vehicles are supported under NHM for transportation of patients, particularly pregnant women and sick infants from home to public health facilities and back in the country including Maharashtra.

The Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) aims to support for infrastructure development for SHCs, Urban AAMs, Support for Block Public Health Units (BPHUs), Integrated District Public Health Laboratories (IPHL) and Critical Care Hospital Blocks(CCB). The Fifteenth Finance Commission (FC-XV) had recommended grants through Local Governments for specific components of the health sectors.
