

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2692
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06TH MARCH, 2020**

SHORTAGE OF CARDIOLOGY DOCTORS

2692. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

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

- (a) whether there are sufficient number of cardiology specialists in the country, if so, the details thereof, State/ UT-wise and if not, the corrective steps taken thereon;
- (b) the details of the action taken by the Government to improve cardiac care facilities throughout the country;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the decision of Medical Council of India not to grant approval for post graduate diploma in clinical cardiology course between 2006-2013 from Indira Gandhi National Open University created crisis in cardiology treatment; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to grant approval to the said course?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

(a) & (b): As per Postgraduate Medical Education Regulations, 2000 of Medical Council of India (MCI), DM Cardiology and DM Pediatric Cardiology are available in the country with an intake capacity of 397 post graduate seats. Further, National Board of Examination (NBE) is running Diplomate of National Board (DNB) seats in Cardiology and Fellowship (FNB) in Interventional Cardiology. Presently, there are 211 DNB seats in Cardiology and 34 seats in Fellowship (FNB) in Interventional Cardiology. However, the data regarding number of Cardiologist in the country is not maintained centrally. Further, public health and hospitals being a State subject, the primary responsibility to ensure availability of human healthcare professionals in public health facilities lies with the State/UT Governments. However, under the National Health Mission (NHM), financial and technical support is provided to States/UTs to strengthen their healthcare systems including support for engagement of doctors on contractual basis, based on the requirements posed by the States/UTs in their Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) within their overall resource envelope.

(c) & (d): No. The nomenclature of Post Graduate Diploma in Clinical Cardiology has not been prescribed in Medical Council of India's (MCI) Post Graduate Medical Education Regulation, 2000. The Board of Governors appointed in supersession of MCI has not recognized Post Graduate Diploma in Clinical Cardiology of Indira Gandhi National Open University as permission for the said course was not granted by the Central Government / MCI under section 10A of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956.