

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 836
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26th JULY, 2024**

DEMAND FOR MEDICAL COLLEGES IN WEST BENGAL

836. SHRI JAGANNATH SARKAR:

SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the pressing demand for medical colleges in Balurghat, Alipurduar, Kalimpong and Paschim Burdwan districts of West Bengal due to inadequate access to medical education in these areas, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the districts of West Bengal which do not have medical college and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Union Government received any proposal for establishing Medical Colleges in these districts and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of the current ratio of aspiring medical students to available seats in existing medical colleges in West Bengal; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to establish a Medical College in every district of West Bengal and the results thereto?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare administers a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for 'Establishment of new medical colleges attached with existing district/referral hospitals' with preference to underserved areas and aspirational districts, where there is no existing Government or private medical college. The fund sharing mechanism between the Centre and State Governments is in the ratio of 90:10 for North Eastern and Special Category States, and 60:40 for others. Under the Scheme, all the envisaged 157 Government medical colleges have already been approved in three phases including 11 medical colleges in West Bengal at Birbhum (Rampur Hat), Cooch Behar, Diamond Harbour, Purulia, Raiganj(North Dinajpur), Barasat, Uluberia, Arambagh, Jhargram, Tamluk, Jalpaiguri. However, no proposal

for setting up of Medical College at Balurghat, Alipurduar, Kalimpong and Paschim Burdwan were received from the State of West Bengal. Also, as per Census-2011, there were 19 districts in West Bengal. Out of which all the districts except Balurghat have medical colleges.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), an AIIMS has also been established at Kalyani.

There are 5,375 UG seats available in West Bengal for the academic year 2024-25 as of now. As informed by National Testing Agency, 1,16,110 candidates appeared in NEET(UG) 2024 from West Bengal.
