

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2176
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH DECEMBER, 2025**

SHORTAGE OF DOCTORS AND NURSES

2176. SHRI UMMEDA RAM BENIWAL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the shortage of doctors, nurses and paramedics in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) whether the Central Government has failed to fill up the vacant sanctioned posts in Central Government hospitals and the AIIMS?

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

(a) to (c): There are 13,88,185 registered allopathic doctors and 7,51,768 registered AYUSH practitioners. Assuming that 80% of registered practitioners in both the allopathic and AYUSH systems are available, the doctor-population ratio in the country is estimated to be 1:811.

Further, as per the Indian Nursing Council (INC), there are around 42.94 lakh registered nursing personnel. Assuming that 80% of nursing personnel are available, the nurse-population ratio in the country is estimated to be 3:1000.

There has been significant increase in Medical Colleges, Under Graduate (UG) and Post Graduate (PG) Seats in the country. There is an increase in Medical Colleges from 387 to 818; UG seats from 51,348 to 1,28,875 and PG seats from 31,185 to 80,291 from 2014 as on date.

The measures/steps taken by the Government to increase the medical professionals in the country include:

- i. Centrally Sponsored Scheme for establishment of new medical college by upgrading district/ referral hospital under which 137 new medical colleges are functional out of 157 approved medical colleges.
- ii. Centrally Sponsored Scheme for strengthening/ upgradation of existing State Government/Central Government Medical Colleges to increase MBBS and PG seats.

iii. Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) scheme has a component related to “Upgradation of Government Medical Colleges by construction of Super Specialty Blocks/Trauma care centres, etc.” Out of 75 projects, 71 projects are complete under this component. The other component is for setting up of new AIIMS, 22 AIIMS have been approved.

iv. Establishment of 157 new nursing colleges under Centrally sponsored scheme for augmenting nursing education.

v. Under the Central Sector Scheme ‘Development of Nursing Services’ financial assistance is provided to States/UTs to upgrade schools of Nursing into Colleges of Nursing.

Augmentation of Healthcare facilities to cater to the increasing needs and functional requirement in Central Government Hospitals and AIIMS including creation of posts and filling up of vacant posts of doctors and other staff is a continuous administrative process.
