

Grant-in-aid for Kerala

2349. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Competent Authority of Kerala had submitted during February, 2008, proposals for grant-in-aid from Union Government under Centrally sponsored scheme under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of action taken thereon;

(c) whether action will be taken in affirmative on the above submission; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes. As per information available, the Government of Kerala had submitted six proposals amounting to Rs. 94.205 crore *vide* their letter dated 06.02.2008.

(b) and (c) The proposals were processed as per guidelines and a sum of Rs. 2.00 crore was released to the State Government.

(d) Doesn't arise.

Doctor-population ratio

†2350. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of doctors in the country at present and the ratio of population for which a doctor is available;

(b) the total number of established medical colleges in the country and total number of seats available therein;

(c) whether Government is taking measures to make available cheap medical facilities to the growing population and to rural poor masses and for increasing the number of medical colleges and their seats; and

(d) if not, whether Government would take measure after deliberating seriously?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The doctor patient ratio varies from case to case depending upon various factors like type of diseases, nature of specialization, type of treatment required *i.e.* indoor/outdoor. As per information furnished by Medical Council of India, the total number of registered allopathic doctors in the country is 7, 33, 617. Thus the percentage of allopathic doctor in proportion to population at present works out to 0.06% approximately and the allopathic doctors population ratio works out to 1:1584 approximately. In addition there more than six lakh practitioners of Indian system of medicine and Homoeopathy. Taking all these number together, the percentage of doctors with respect to population is 0.11% and the doctor population ratio comes to 1:860

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.