

(c) and (d) The thyroid disorder cases are seen in the health care delivery system up to Medical Colleges and district hospitals by physicians and surgeons, There is no information available which suggest that 90% of such cases are not able to get treatment.

Shortage of doctors and para-medics in rural areas

1481. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of doctors and para-medical staff, particularly in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, whether inadequate staff is adversely affecting the functioning of rural health centres; and

(c) if so, the details of steps Government has taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) Yes. National Rural Health Mission [NRHM] was launched in the year 2005 with the objective to provide accessible, accountable and affordable health care services in the rural areas across the country. Augmentation of human resource is one of the thrust areas under the NRHM. Financial support is provided to the States under NRHM for engagement of staff on contractual basis. Under NRHM, nearly, 8,624 MBBS Doctors, 2,460 Specialists, 7,692 AYUSH Doctors, 26793 Staff Nurses, 46,660 ANMs and 3,143 AYUSH Paramedics have been engaged by States/UTs on contractual basis.

Multi-skilling of doctors to overcome the shortage of specialists; provision of incentives to serve in rural areas; improved accommodation arrangements; measure to set up more medical colleges, GNM Schools, ANM Schools to produce more doctors and paramedics have also been under taken to bridge the gap in human resources.

Super speciality hospitals in state capitals under PMSSY

1482. DR. VIJAY MALLYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), there is a proposal to set-up super speciality hospitals in the pattern of AIIMS in different capital cities of the States;