

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) Yes. The Government is setting up an AIIMS-like institution at Jodhpur in Rajasthan at an estimated cost of Rs.840 crore. The civil work for Medical College Complex has started in May, 2010 and is scheduled to be completed by August/September, 2011. Civil work for Hospital complex has started in the middle of September, 2010 and it is scheduled to be completed by September, 2012. The residential complex for the AIIMS-like institution has already been constructed.

Separate cadre for health services

87. SHRI S. THANGAVELU : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is formulating any proposal for setting up a separate exclusive cadre of health services in the country on the lines of the Indian Railway Services where the top posts are filled from within the rank; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Strengthening of nursing councils

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

(a) the total number of State nursing councils strengthened by Government during the current year; and

(b) the details of steps taken by Government to increase the nurse-doctor ratio in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN) : (a) 15 State Nursing Councils have been released grant-in-aid up to Rs. 1.00 crore during the year 2008-09 for its Upgradation and Strengthening during the XIth plan period.

(b) The following are the steps taken by the Government to increase the Nurse Doctor ratio in the country: -

- i) In order to increase the availability of graduate nurses assistance is provided to States for upgradation of schools of nursing into colleges of nursing.
- ii) Establishment of 132 Auxiliary Nurse Midwifery (ANM) and 137 General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM) schools in Government Sector in those districts which are not having ANM and GNM training Schools.
- iii) Establishment of 6 Colleges of Nursing at the sites of AIIMS like institutions.
- iv) Indian Nursing Council has also taken the proactive measures to encourage opening of more nursing institutions which are given in Statement.

Statement

Proactive measures taken by Indian Nursing Council

- (i) Student patient ratio has been relaxed from 1:5 to 1:3
- (ii) The land from 5 acres has been relaxed to construct building of 54,000 sq. ft. for School/College of Nursing and Hostel.
- (iii) Relaxed norms for teaching faculty to start B.Sc. (N) Programme.
 - * At least 2 M.Sc. (N) faculty to be available
 - * Qualification and Experience of the Nursing Teachers has been relaxed up to 2012.
 - * Sharing of teaching faculty for both Diploma and Graduate Programme.
- (iv) Relaxation for opening M.Sc. (N) programme. Super specialty Hospital can start M.Sc. (N) without having under graduate programme.
 - i. Relaxation of student teacher ratio for M.Sc (N) programme has been relaxed from 1:5 to 1:10
 - ii. Essentiality certificate to open M.Sc. (N) programme from State Government is not required for those institution which are already having Indian Nursing Council recognized programme like Diploma or Degree.
 - iii. If an institution is having INC recognition for one programme then there is no need to have Essentiality Certificate for starting another nursing programme.
- (v) Admission for Nursing allowed for married candidates.

- (vi) Age increased for Teaching Faculty up to 70 years.
- (vii) Maximum of 100 seats will be given to those parent hospitals with 300 beds without insisting Medical College.
- (viii) Distance from school to hospital has been relaxed from 15 km to 30 km
- (ix) Eligibility Criteria to admission *i.e.* (Marks) for Diploma and Degree has been relaxed 5% (GNM - 40%, B.Sc. - 45%).

Projected shortfall of medical doctors

89. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there will be shortfall of a whopping 9.54 lakh doctors by 2031 if the levels of student intake to medical colleges across the country remain what they are at present;
- (b) if so, whether Government has proposed any specific plan to increase the student intake in the medical colleges in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) The current doctor-population ratio in India is low which needs to be improved. The Central Government has already initiated the following measures to facilitate setting up of medical colleges to increase number of doctors/specialists in the country:

1. Requirement for land, faculty, staff, bed/bed strength, other infrastructure, etc. has been relaxed.
2. Maximum intake capacity at MBBS level has been increased from 150 to 250.
3. Maximum age for appointment of faculty has been enhanced from 65 to 70 years.
4. DNB qualifications have been recognized for appointment to various faculty positions.
5. Teacher - student ratio has been relaxed to increase the seats at Postgraduate level.