

Regional disparity in availability of doctors

† 5027. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to states;

(a) whether it is a fact that due to establishment of large number of medical colleges in the Southern State there is huge disparity in the availability of doctors in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has made any assessment of the required number of doctors in each State of the country; and

(d) if so, the required number of doctors in each state and their shortages in each state?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) the Central Government is aware that there is imbalance in establishment of medical colleges and shortage of available of doctors in the country particularly in rural areas. The State-wise requirement of doctors has not been assessed by the Central Government. However, as per assessment made by the Board of Governors, Medical Council of India the country would require 15.4 lakh doctors to achieve a target of doctor population ratio of 1:1000 by 2030.

Checking adulteration of food items

5028. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any mechanism has been established to test milk for harmful bacteria like E. coli staphaureus and listeria monocytogenes, and checking started from February, 2012 as has been made mandatory by the Food Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI);

(b) if so, whether FSSAI has issued any detailed guidelines to ensure that all eatables are put to similar tests to eliminate adulteration of food items; and

(c) whether the Ministry has introduced any periodic or random checking with the operation of this new methodology either on its own or in co-ordination with State Governments as such manufacturer bases are spread deep in rural, semi-urban and urban areas?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi