

- (ii.) Enhancement of maximum intake capacity at MBBS level from 150 to 250.
- (iii.) Enhancement of age limit for appointment/extension/re-employment against posts of teachers/dean/principal/ director in medical colleges from 65-70 years.
- (iv.) Financial support to State Medical Colleges, under the scheme of “Strengthening and Upgradation of State Government Medical Colleges”, to increase postgraduate seats in various disciplines or to start new postgraduate medical courses.
- (v.) Establishment of eight AIIMS-like institutions (six in first phase and two in second phase) in the country under PMSSY.

Introduction of three years medical degree courses

266. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to introduce three years medical degree course for healthcare in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons for introducing this course and its benefits;
- (c) the difference between the existing MBBS course and proposed new course; and
- (d) the details thereof which proposed to introduce the new course, State-wise and college-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) to (c) No. However, the Central Government has approved introduction of a course namely, Bachelor of Science (Community Health). The main reason and objective of the proposed course is to create mid-level health professionals who would possess the necessary public health and ambulatory care competencies to serve the rural population.

(d) The Central Government, till now, has received willingness from the States of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Assam to introduce the course.

Treatment of Ebola cases in private hospitals

267. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a major portion of patient load in India is handled by the private healthcare system;

(b) whether Government needs to ensure that private hospitals besides asking them to refer patients with symptoms of Ebola to public hospitals are adequately equipped and participate fully in the country's preparedness against Ebola;

(c) if so, the details of steps taken by Government to ensure that private hospitals participate fully in the country's preparedness; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) Yes.

(b) to (d) There is no reported case of Ebola Virus Disease in India. Government has instituted a number of preventive steps including screening of passengers at ports and airports and their tracking wherever necessary through Integrated Disease Surveillance System to prevent entry of disease into India and early detection of cases.

For compliance on the isolation, infection control and biomedical waste management, States/UTs have identified Government hospitals.

TB patients in the country

†268. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Health Organisation has stated in the Global TB Report, 2014 that out of the existing 90 lakh TB patients in the world approximately 24 per cent are in India;

(b) whether 13 per cent of the TB patients of the world are in India and out of these 5 per cent patients are less than 15 years of age;

(c) whether it is a fact that medicines are getting ineffective on 2.2 per cent TB patients every year; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to improve this condition and provide medicines to the patients by identifying them?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) and (b) Yes. According to the WHO Global TB Report 2014, there were an estimated 9.0 million incident cases of TB globally (range 8.6 million-9.4 million) in the year 2013. India had the largest number of TB cases (24 per cent of the global total). Among 1243905 new and relapse cases registered, 64726 (5 per cent) cases were aged under 15 years.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.