

- (v) Relaxation in the norms for setting up of a medical college in terms of requirement for land, faculty, staff, bed/ bed strength and other infrastructure.
- (vi) Strengthening/upgradation of State Government Medical Colleges for starting new PG courses/Increase of PG seats with fund sharing between the Central and State Government in the ratio of 75:25.
- (vii) Establishment of New Medical Colleges by upgrading district/referral hospitals preferably in underserved districts of the country with fund sharing between the Central Government and States in the ratio of 90:10 for NE/ special category States and 75:25 for other States.
- (viii) Strengthening/ upgradation of existing State Government/Central Government Medical Colleges to increase MBBS seats with fund sharing between the Central Government and States in the ratio of 90:10 for NE/special category states and 70:30 for other states with the upper ceiling of the cost per MBBS pegged at ₹ 1.20 crore.

#### **New tests for diagnosing TB**

927. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that new TB tests recommended in USA and other countries of the world are proposed to be promoted in India to control this menace;
- (b) whether this test is facing resistance from medical authorities in India on account of apprehensions that it could lead to drug resistance;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether this test is mandatory for Indians seeking jobs in the USA; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA) : (a) Under Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP) the following methods are used to diagnose various forms of Tuberculosis:

1. Microscopy
2. Culture (Solid, Liquid)
3. Molecular tests Line Probe Assay (LPA), Cartridge Based Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (CBNAAT)

4. Mantoux Test
5. X-ray and other imaging techniques
6. Histopathology

(b) None of the above mentioned tests used under RNTCP are reported to lead to drug resistance.

(c) to (e) Do not arise in view of (b) above.

#### **Acute shortage of beds at AIIMS, Delhi**

†928. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that patients at AIIMS, Delhi are made to sleep on the stretchers due to acute shortage of beds;

(b) if so, whether Government will take decision to enhance the number of beds in AIIMS; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA) : (a) to (c) No such incidence has been reported in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi.

#### **Overcoming shortage of medical personnel in ASSAM**

929. SHRI PANKAJ BORA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of doctors and medical staff in Assam's health sector;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government with the help of the concerned State Government have taken any steps to overcome the shortage of doctors and medical staff; and

(c) if so, the response thereto?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.