

(c) the measures Government has taken to ensure that citizens, particularly in rural India are not burdened by costly healthcare provided by the private sector due to a shortage of surgeons in CHS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) The incumbency position of surgeons in Central Health Services is as under:-

Sanctioned posts	Filled	Vacancy
110	83	27

Filling up the vacant posts through Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) is a continuous process.

(b) and (c) Health is a State subject. It is the responsibility of the States/UTs to provide necessary healthcare facilities to the citizens of States/UTs. However support is provided to States/UTs by the Central Government to strengthen their health system.

#### **MCI's approval for private medical colleges**

2607. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Medical Council of India (MCI) has given a second lifeline to 175 private medical colleges that were denied approval by the Ministry; and

(b) if so, the reason for Government not overruling it and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) and (b) No. However, the Supreme Court mandated Oversight Committee (OC) on MCI has permitted the applicant colleges for the academic year 2016-17 who have not been offered an opportunity to furnish their compliance to deficiencies communicated by MCI, to submit their compliance report afresh.

#### **Minority groups benefited from welfare measures**

2608. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) which are the groups that have been defined and listed under the minority category;

(b) whether welfare measures are uniformly applied on all the groups; and