

Doctor-patient ratio

431. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the present level of doctor-patient ratio in the country, State/UT-wise, *vis-a-vis* the ratio prevailing in some of the neighbouring developing countries and developed countries;

(b) whether Government has any estimate as to the effective ratio for taking prime care of the patients;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to increase this ratio and to make it at par with the international standards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) to (c) State/UT-wise doctor-patient ratio is not maintained centrally. However, as per information provided by Medical Council of India, there are a total 10,41,395 allopathic doctors registered with the State Medical Councils/Medical Council of India as on 30th September, 2017. Assuming 80% availability, it is estimated that around 8.33 lakh doctors may be actually available for active service. It gives a doctor-population ratio of 0.63:1000 as per current population estimate of 1.33 billion. WHO prescribes a doctor population ratio of 1:1000. The doctor population ratio in some neighboring developing countries and developed countries is given in the Statement (*See* below). Source: WHO.

(d) The emphasis of government on increasing the number of doctors in the country will improve the doctor population ratio. There are 479 medical colleges in the country with an intake capacity of 67352 MBBS seats. 13004 MBBS seats have been added in the last three years. The Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Establishment of new medical colleges attached with district/referral hospitals in 58 districts in under-served areas in the country. There are other Centrally Sponsored Schemes for increasing UG seats and PG seats in existing Government medical colleges. To increase the availability of faculty and specialist doctors in the country, one time increase in PG seats was permitted this year after the revision of teacher student ratio. In all, over 5800 PG seats have been added this year. Minimum Standard Requirements (MSRs) for medical colleges including requirement of land, faculty, staff, bed/bed strength and other infrastructure has been rationalized to facilitate setting up of new colleges.

Statement

Details of the doctor population ratio of neighboring developing countries and developed countries

Sl. No.	Name of the Country	Density of doctors per thousand	Year
1.	Afghanistan	0.304	2014
2.	Bangladesh	0.389	2012
3.	Bhutan	0.258	2014
4.	Pakistan	0.806	2014
5.	Australia	3.374	2013
6.	Brazil	1.852	2013
7.	China	1.49	2011
8.	France	3.227	2015
9.	Germany	4.125	2014
10.	Japan	2.297	2012
11.	New Zealand	2.852	2014
12.	Russia	3.306	2014
13.	USA	2.554	2013

New health policy

†432. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently announced a new health policy;
- (b) if so, the details of the changes/amendments made in the previous health policy and the new initiatives taken in the new health policy announced; and
- (c) whether Government plans to allocate resources to the States based on their development related indicators, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL): (a) and (b) The Government has formulated National Health Policy, 2017 in the light of the changes that have taken place in the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.