

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. There are two centers in the country which offer Post-graduate course (MD) in Palliative Medicine, namely AIIMS, New Delhi and Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai. Further, short-term training on palliative care is being imparted to doctors, nurses and other healthcare personnel under National Program for Palliative Care (NPPC).

The Government has been implementing NPPC since 2013-14, which is a part of National Health Mission. Till date, 162 districts in 26 States/UTs have been covered under NPPC. There is a provision of an amount of ₹ 2.0 lakh per annum per district in the program for imparting short-term training on palliative care to doctors, nurses and other health-care personnel.

New wellness centres

2017. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) how many wellness centres have been established by Government in the past three years;
- (b) what are the standards prescribed by Government for establishing these wellness centres; and
- (c) how many people does one wellness centre caters to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL): (a) Pursuant to announcement by Union Finance Minister in his Budget Speech 2017-18, approvals under National Health Mission have been given for 4483 Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs) against a target of 4000 HWCs in 2017-18.

(b) HWCs are envisaged to provide a set of comprehensive services which would be led by a Community Health Officer (CHO) or Mid Level Service Provider who could be a staff nurse or Ayurveda doctor.

The HWCs would have infrastructure with adequate space for patient waiting, screening and examination, drug dispensing, point of care diagnostics etc.

A committee has also been formed to draft standards for health and wellness centres.

Various task forces have also been set up to develop Operation Guidelines and training modules to enable expanding the service package as part of CPHC for oral health, ENT, Eye care, palliative care, care of elderly, mental health and emergency medical services.

(c) The existing SHC/ PHC would be transformed into Health and Wellness Centers. According to Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) , one Sub Health Centres (SHC) caters to a population of 5000 people in the plains and 3000 in tribal and hilly areas while one Primary Health Centre (PHC) caters to 30,000 population in plains and 20,000 population in tribal and hilly area.

Child Sex Ratio

2018. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any projects are going on to address the issue of declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR), if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any special assistance is given to States to meet the situation, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of fund released to Kerala for the purpose during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL): (a) The Government has enacted the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994, for prohibition of sex selection before or after conception and for prevention of misuse of pre-conception and pre-natal diagnostic techniques for sex determination.

The Government of India besides enactment of the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994, has adopted a multi-pronged strategy entailing schemes and programmes for awareness generation and advocacy measures to build a positive environment for the girl child through gender sensitive policies, provisions and legislation.

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme which was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 22nd January, 2015 addresses the declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and related issues of women empowerment over a life-cycle continuum. It is a tri-ministerial effort of Ministries of Women and Child Development, Health and Family Welfare and Human Resource Development. The key elements of the scheme include nation-wide awareness and advocacy campaign and multi-sectoral action covering all the 640 districts (as per census 2011) in the country.

(b) The Central Government is rendering financial support under NHM to strengthen implementation structures in all the states. During 2016-17, ₹ 23.19 crores have