

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2346
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16TH MARCH, 2021**

BED AVAILABILITY IN INDIA

2346 SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the recently released Human Development Report 2020 shows India's rank as 155th among 167 countries on bed availability
- (b) if so, whether the number of beds per thousand is used as an indicator of health infrastructure in general and
- (c) the corrective steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): As per the Human Development Report 2020 prepared by United Nations Development Programme, India ranks 131 in the Human Development Index. The said report can be accessed from <http://hdr.undp.org/en/2020-report>. The country-specific ranking based on availability of beds in hospitals to population, as mentioned in the question, is based on newspaper articles. The methodology of the ranking adopted by the concerned newspapers is not known to this Ministry. However, there is no country-wise ranking mentioned in Human Development Report 2020 based on availability of beds in Hospitals to its population.

(b): In the above-mentioned report, a few parameters, including number of beds per thousand population, have been mentioned which were used as indicators of health infrastructure.

(c): Public Health and hospitals, being a State subject, the primary responsibility of providing accessible, affordable and quality healthcare including setting up of new hospitals, upgradation and strengthening of existing health facilities lies with the State Governments. Under the National Health Mission (NHM), however, financial and technical support is provided to States/UTs for strengthening their healthcare systems including for expansion of its public health institutions as well as for deployment of human resources to cater to public health services to all citizen based on the proposals received from States/UTs through Programme Implementation Plan (PIP).

Apart from this, States are also being supported under NHM for expansion in capacities, viz. through provision of extra hospital beds, ICUs/HDUs, free diagnostics and free drugs/medicines wherever necessary. The PM Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana has been announced for developing capacities of primary, secondary and tertiary care health systems, strengthen existing national institutions, and create new institutions, to cater to detection and cure of new and emerging diseases.