

Out of 157 new medical colleges 64 are functional with 6500 seats

By TIOL News Service

NEW DELHI, OCT 24, 2021: THE

government has given a nod to as many as 157 new medical colleges in India since 2014 and has invested a total of ₹17,691.08 crore on these projects.

On completion, nearly 16000 undergraduate medical seats would be added. Of these, 6500 seats have already been created with the functioning of 64 new Medical Colleges.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), the Central Government has also provided about ₹2,451.1 crore for upgradation of existing state government or central government medical colleges to increase MBBS seats in the country.

Government of India has relentlessly pursued the aim of cultivating more human resources through Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) that seek to address not only the issues of equity in medical education and but also geographic disparity in availability of medical care.

This is implemented by the following avenues:

- Establishment of new Medical Colleges attached with existing district/referral hospitals,
- Upgradation of existing State Government/Central Government medical colleges to increase MBBS seats in the country and
- Strengthening and upgradation of State Government Medical colleges for starting new PG disciplines and increasing PG seats.
- **Brief of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme: Establishment of new Medical Colleges attached with existing district/referral hospitals**

Under the Scheme, medical colleges are established in Districts which do not have either a Government or private medical college. Preference is given to underserved / backward / Aspirational Districts.

Under three phases of the scheme, 157 new medical colleges have been approved, out of which 63 medical colleges are already functional. Of the 157 new colleges that are being established under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, 39 are being set up in Aspirational Districts.

As per the scheme guidelines, the State Government is the implementing agency and the planning, execution and commissioning of the projects is to be done by the State Government.

The achievements under the 3 phases are:

Phase	Launched	No. of Medical Colleges planned	No. of Functional Medical Colleges	States/UTs covered	Outlay per college	Total Outlay	Central Share	Central Share released
I	January 2014	58	48	20	189 Cr	10,962 Cr	7541.1 Cr	7541.1 Cr

II	February 2018	24	8	8	250 Cr	6000 Cr	3675 Cr	3675 Cr
III	August 2019	75	8	18	325 Cr	24,37.41 Cr	15,499.74 Cr	6719.11 Cr

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- **Upgradation of existing State Government/Central Government Medical Colleges to increase MBBS seats in the country:-**

With the objective of creating 10,000 MBBS seats in Government Colleges in the country, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for up-gradation of existing State Government/Central Government medical colleges to increase MBBS seats.

The funding pattern is 90:10 by Central and State Governments respectively for North Eastern States and Special category States and 60:40 for other States with the upper ceiling cost pegged at Rs.1.20 crore per seat.48 colleges in 15 states has been approved for increase of 3325 seats with Rs 6719.11 Cr released as Central Share.

- **Strengthening and upgradation of State Government Medical colleges for starting new PG disciplines and increasing PG seats:-**

This initiative has been undertaken in two phases:

Phase-I

Â of the scheme was launched in the XI Plan period with the objective of strengthening and upgrading State/Central Government Medical Colleges to create new PG seats. A total of 72 Government Medical colleges in 21 States/UTs have been approved under the scheme for increasing 4058 PG seats. Funds to the tune of Rs.1049.3578 crore have been released under the scheme till date.

Phase-II

Â of the scheme was to create 4000 PG seats in Government Colleges in the country. The funding pattern is 90:10 by Central and State Governments respectively for North Eastern States and Special category States and 60:40 for other States with the upper ceiling cost pegged at Rs.1.20 crore per seat. A total of 16 Government Medical Colleges have been approved under the scheme for increasing 1741 PG seats till date. Funds to the tune of Rs.694.534 crore have been released under the scheme till date.

This Central Sector Scheme was envisaged to bridge the shortfall in manpower in the Medical Sector as also to bridge the geographical imbalance in availability of trained medical manpower across the country. Major milestones being achieved by the Scheme include increasing availability of health professionals, correcting existing geographical imbalance in the distribution of medical colleges, promoting affordable medical education, utilizing existing infrastructure of district hospitals and improving tertiary care in the Government sector.