

Rural stint: MBBS docs all set to get extra marks

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Working in rural India could stand you a better chance of getting a post-graduate (PG) medical seat. In an incentive that will soon be notified by the Union health ministry, MBBS doctors who undergo rural service will sit for the PG exam with an added advantage — they will have 10-30 marks guaranteed.

According to health minister Ghulam Nabi Azad, those MBBS students who have done one year of rural service will get 10 marks as an additional weightage

while those who would have done three years in the country's most backward areas would get 30 marks. This rural service will have to be rendered after completion of the MBBS student's internship.

Azad, who said this incentive should boost rural posting, added that 50% seats in PG diploma courses are being reserved for medical officers in government service who have served for at least three years in remote and difficult areas. "Doctors who are still shying away from practising in difficult or backward areas will have to be given extra incentives. MBBS

NEW REMEDY

PG Advantage

● **10 marks** | MBBS docs with 1 yr rural stint

● **30 marks** | For a 3-yr stint (Rural stint only after finishing internship)

Govt docs quota

● 50% PG diploma seats reserved for govt docs with 3 yr service in remote areas

doctors with rural work experience will sit for the PG exam with 10-30 marks guaranteed. It will apply to all state exams also," said Azad.

He said, "Not only will the

National Rural Health Mission gain the services of MBBS doctors but with this incentive students will be encouraged to utilize their skills, immediately after passing out, in the service of people in backward areas."

In order to increase the country's skilled medical manpower, the government has come out with another vital notification. As against the average global norm of teacher-student ratio being 1:3 in PG levels, the ministry has now made such a ratio in India to be two students for each teacher. At present the ratio in India is 1:1.