

## **West Bengal State to recruit medical diploma holders**

The state government has decided to recruit diploma holders in the medical health service as there is dearth of doctors in the newly formed super speciality hospitals in the state.

The recruitment would be conducted by the West Bengal Health Recruitment Board (WBHRB) and the appointments will be made as early as possible. Shashi Panja, MOS health, said that they have already issued advertisements, but most doctors are not willing to work in the rural hospitals.

In the circumstances, they have decided to recruit diploma holders to fill the vacancies. According to the statistics made available by the state health department, appointment letters were issued to 2417 general duty medical officers, 115 block medical officers of health and 262 specialist doctors.

Since 2011, 7450 MBBS medical officers have been appointed in the state by the WBHRB. Senior officials of the state government said that recruitment of 150 dental surgeons has been recommended by the WBHRB.

In 2016, WBHRB will also issue advertisements for filling 417 posts of resident medical officers cum clinical tutors under West Bengal Medical Education Service in July and the panel is expected to select the candidates by January 2017.

West Bengal Health service has already sent requisition for 2418 GDMOs under WBHS and it is expected that recommendation from WBHRB will be received by December 2016.

According to the state health department, around 13,600 medical staff are required for the newly setup super-speciality hospitals in the state.

The officials pointed out that the biggest challenge is to get specialists and to appoint them in rural areas, especially in Purulia, Bankura and West Midnapore. There is a dearth of around 6,000 specialists in staterun hospitals, the official added.

The newly set-up superspeciality hospitals can accommodate around 500 patients each