

Why I chose to complete my MOship bond?

Hi! I am Swati Deshmukh. Born and raised in Nanded, I completed my MBBS from the prestigious Grant Medical College and JJ Hospital Mumbai in the year 2012. I have been a participant of the NIRMAN youth initiative and had visited Gadchiroli earlier. After seeing the abysmal health conditions in the district, I chose to complete my MOship bond in Gadchiroli district. I joined at the Sub-District Hospital (SDH) at tehsil Armori and served there for one year from June 2012 to May 2013.

Looking back now, I would rate my overall experience as an MO as 9 on a scale from 1 – 10 (1 being the lowest and 10 being the highest). I do think that medical students must complete this bond as we get a real exposure in treating patients unlike in medical colleges where we mostly do clerical work during internship.

No doubt there are difficulties, for example, sometimes we didn't know how to treat unusual health problems. But there was a solution to that too. There was a well-equipped telemedicine facility complete with Wi-Fi connectivity. Though there was a time lag in getting responses, but we did get it from senior doctors in Government Medical College, Nagpur.

Having done the MOship, my knowledge about common diseases increased. I started feeling more confident while dealing with patients and their attendants, emergencies, mob. I was paid a handsome amount of money by the government as my salary. I developed an interest in the field of obstetrics and eventually took it up as my post-graduation subject. Currently I am completing my third year of DNB in Obstetrics and Gynecology in Hyderabad. A common cry often heard is that if you opt for MOship, you may not be able to do your PG. I am happy that I and many of my friends in NIRMAN have proved otherwise.



I sincerely feel that government should strictly implement this bond service since in remote places, infrastructure is there but without the manpower / medical personnel.

I would suggest my medical friends that they can try and take up postings in nearby areas as a group or at least remain in touch through means of

telecommunication. That would give them a support group as well as make their tenure more enjoyable.

I would like to tell my fellow medico friends that MOship Karke Dekho, you'll learn a lot!

Dr. Swati Deshmukh

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NIRMAN 4 batch

'1-year bond service gives real exposure'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: After passing MBBS from JJ Hospital in 2013, Dr **Swati Deshmukh** (31), a Nanded resident, chose to go to Gadchiroli for her one-year bond service. She chose a sub-district hospital at Armori in Gadchiroli district over a posting at an urban centre in Thane. On reaching there, Deshmukh recalled, she met with basic lacunas that she had more or less anticipated.

"There was no electricity or water connection in the quarters, which itself were not in great shape. So we started writing letters to the government to restore the connections," she said. She and three of her friends carried drinking water from the hospital's water cooler till the



connections were fixed. According to her, the biggest challenge of working in a less-prosperous district like Gadchiroli was not the lack of basic amenities, but treating complicated cases.

"We were just out of college and often didn't know how to treat unusual health problems. But, there was a solution for that too. There was a well-equipped tele-medicine facility complete with Wi-Fi connectivity. Though there was a time lag in getting responses, we did get it from senior doctors of Government Medical College Nagpur," she said.

Deshmukh said, "Students must complete bonds as they get a real exposure in treating patients unlike in medical colleges where they mostly do clerical work during internship."