

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2922
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2005
MENTALLY ILL PATIENTS
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the directions of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to States and Union Territories no mentally ill patient is kept in chains in any mental hospital;
- (b) if so, whether all the State Governments/Union Territories are complying the directions of NHRC;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the number of deaths reported in accidents due to mentally ill being chained during the last three years and thereafter State-wise; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure that directions of NHRC are implemented in letter and spirit?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a)to(e): In response to the directions issued by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), all the State Governments/Union Territories have reported that no mentally ill patient is kept in chains in any Mental Hospitals/Institutions within their jurisdiction. No deaths in accidents due to mentally ill being chained have been reported during the last three years.

(f): Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has been issuing instructions to all the State Governments and UT administrations, from time to time, to implement the provisions contained in the Mental Health Act, 1987 and Rules framed there under, which includes Section 81(l) of the Act that provides that no mentally ill person should be subjected during treatment to any indignity (whether physical or mental) or cruelty. The State Mental Health Authorities and the Central Mental Health Authority constituted under the Mental Health Act, 1987 oversee the proper implementation of the various provisions of the Act.