

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:301
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2010
NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMME
Chitthan Shri N.S.V.;Karunakaran Shri P.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of patients with the mental disorder is on the rise in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and the steps taken by the Government to improve the mental health of such patients in the country;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to restructure the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) to improve upon the situation at primary level and launch it in the so far unserved areas of the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the funds earmarked for the purpose during the current year;
- (e) the details of the mental hospitals and medical colleges upgraded and financial assistance provided to them during the last one year and till date under NMHP, State/UT-wise;and
- (f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the number of mental health care professionals in the country particularly at the primary level?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a)to(f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 301 FOR 16TH APRIL, 2010

No longitudinal data on mental disorders is maintained, however, the prevalence of mental disorders is estimated to be of the magnitude of 5.8 to 7.3 %. The Central Government is implementing National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) to improve response to mental health problems.

The Government is restructuring the NMHP by adding newer services in the form of Life Skills education in schools, College Counseling services, Suicide prevention services, Workplace stress management in addition to the existing early detection and treatment, training of Primary health care staff in mental health and awareness activities at community level in 123 districts of the country in the 11th FYP period. The programme is not expected to be expanded beyond 123 districts in the current plan period. The fund earmarked for the current financial year is Rs.120 crore including Rs.17 crore for the NE region.

List of mental hospitals and medical colleges funded for Upgradation under NMHP and financial assistance provided to them during the last one year till date under NMHP, State/UT – wise is annexed.

To increase the number of mental health professionals in the country, Government is implementing Manpower Development schemes under NMHP. It is estimated that a total of 1756 PG seats for mental health professionals will be added to the existing PG seats. At the primary level under District Mental Health Programme (DMHP), short term training is provided to the existing health care staff to improve their skills in detection and treatment of common mental illnesses.