

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4082

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2010

MENTAL HEALTH CARE

Balram Shri P.;Kumar Shri P.;Suvendu Shri Adhikari

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

- (a) whether a large number of people are suffering from mental disorders in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of such patients reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to restructure and expand the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) across the country to arrest the trend;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the World Health Organisation (WHO) has proposed some measures to bridge the gap between the availability and requirement of mental health care services in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the follow up action taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) & (b) : Epidemiological studies from various parts of the country indicate that prevalence of mental ailments is 6-7% though state wise data is not available. With increase in the population the estimated absolute number of patients with mental ailments is increasing. However, there is no conclusive evidence based upon epidemiological studies done in the same population at two different times to show that the prevalence is increasing in the country.

(c) & (d) : To address the huge burden of mental disorders, Governing of India is implementing NMHP since 1982. A total of 123 districts in 30 states have been covered under the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP). There is no proposal to expand the programme beyond 123 districts in the 111 Plan. Under the 11th Five Year Plan, the NMHP has been restructured to include the following components:

i) Centres of Excellence in Mental Health and Establishment of PG training departments in mental health specialties to increase the PG training capacity in mental health as well as improving the tertiary care treatment facility in mental health with the objective to address the shortage of mental health professionals in the country. Nine Institutes have been funded under the Centre of Excellence Scheme and 19 institutes have been funded for establishment of PG training departments in mental health specialties.

ii) DMHP has been re-strategized during the 11th Five Year Plan and is being implemented in 123 districts of the country with added components of suicide prevention services, work place stress management, life skills training and counselling in schools and colleges and include Public Private Partnerships for reaching out and providing services to the mentally ill persons.

iii) In addition, the NMHP includes schemes for upgradation of Psychiatry wings of Govt. General Hospitals/ Medical Colleges, modernization of Govt. Mental Hospitals, support for Central/ State Mental Health Authorities, Monitoring and Evaluation, Research and Training, Information, Education and Communication activities.

(e) & (f): No.