

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:726

ANSWERED ON:25.02.2011

CASES OF AUTISM

Singh Rajkumari Ratna;Singh Shri Ijyaraj

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

- (a) whether there is a rise in the cases of Autism in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of such cases, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether any financial assistance has been provided to the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for the care and treatment of autism patient;
- (d) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, State/Union Territory-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the proper treatment of such patients?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI)

(a) & (b): Data on autism, which is a neuro – developmental disorder, is not maintained.

(c) & (d): National Trust under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment runs several schemes like Samarth (Residential centre), Niramaya (Health Insurance Scheme), Aspiration (Day Care Centre), Gyan Prabha (Scholarship Scheme), Uddyam Prabha (Interest Subsidy Scheme), Sahyogi (Caregivers Training Scheme), GHARAUNDA etc all over the country for the welfare of four disabilities i.e. Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities.

The funds are release by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment under all of the above schemes for all four disabilities. Details of funds released are annexed.

(e): No cure or treatment is available for Autism. However, with early detection and intervention it can be managed. Therefore steps have been taken ror creating awareness, diagnosis and early intervention.