

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1044  
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2011  
INSTITUTE OF SPEECH AND HEARING  
Gaddigoudar Shri P.C.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to develop institutes similar to the Mysore based All India Institute of Speech and Hearing in other parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, inter-alia indicating the States where such institutes have since been established;
- (c) the present status of communication disorders in the country; and
- (d) the action plan of the Government to promote and upgrade such facilities in the hospitals in other parts of the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

- (a): There is no proposal at present to develop similar institutes in other parts of the country.
- (b): Does not arise.
- (c): Communication Disorders involve a wide variety of problems in speech, language and hearing which are as under:

Type of disorder Census of India (2001)

Speech disorder 7%  
Hearing disorder 6%

However, the above noted survey did not include children below the age of 5 years and included speech disorders only which have explicit signs and symptoms and did not include language disorders associated with many conditions such as mental retardation, cerebral palsy, autism, learning disability etc. Hence, it may be estimated that the prevalence could be higher than what is represented in the reports.

The NSSO (2002) has reported that there are 291 per lakh of population with hearing disability and 204 per lakh population with speech and language disability.

- (d): The National Programme for Prevention and Control of Deafness was launched by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in January, 2007 under which the infrastructure has been made in district hospitals and training at various levels has been undertaken.