

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1923

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2011

SUICIDE CASES

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

- (a) whether there is high tendency of suicide due to behavioural and mental health problems in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government to arrest the trend by providing counselling and behavioural therapy to people suffering from these symptoms and the achievements made as a result thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to augment the number of trained psychiatrists and incorporate new strategy in mental health programme in order to deal with the rising number of suicide cases in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The causes of suicides have their origin in the social, economic, cultural psychological and health status of an individual. Suicide is multifactorial, cumulative and progressive in nature. Among the major mental health problems, depression, schizophrenia, alcohol in self or spouse, affective disorders, drug dependence, adjustment disorders and mood and personality problems have been identified among those with contemplated and attempted suicides. As per "ACCIDENTAL DEATHS AND SUICIDES IN INDIA – 2010" Report of the National Crime Records Bureau, 1,34,599 persons in the country lost their lives by committing suicide during the year 2010 indicating an increase of 5.9% over the previous year's figure of 1,27,151. Up to 90% of the individuals who died by suicide evidenced some form of mental disorder, particularly depression, substance abuse, schizophrenia etc.

(c): The District Mental Health Programme is currently under implementation 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. As a result of the policy of Government to tackle mental illness in the country, there has been better awareness leading to a significant change in the attitude of people and care takers towards mental illness.

(d) & (e) : The Manpower Development Schemes under the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) have been approved by the Government with a total budget outlay of Rs. 408.011 crores for the 11th Five Year Plan.

Centres of Excellence in the field of mental health are being established by upgrading and strengthening identified existing mental health hospitals/ institutes with a support of upto Rs. 30 crore per centre. The support includes capital work (Academic block, Library, Hostel, Lab., Supportive departments, Lecture theatres etc.), equipments and furnishing, support for faculty induction and retention for the plan period.

Further, to provide an impetus for development of Manpower in Mental Health, Govt. Medical Colleges, Govt. General Hospitals/ State run Mental Health Institutes are being supported for starting PG courses or increasing the intake capacity for PG training in Mental Health with support of upto Rs. 51 lakh to Rs. 1 crore per PG Department.