

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5826
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2012
DEMENTIA PATIENTS
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the World Health Organisation (WHO) has declared dementia to be a global public health priority;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that India's geriatric population is expected to increase from 7.5 per cent to 12 per cent by 2025;
- (d) if so, the facts in this regard indicating the number of dementia patients in the country, State/UT-wise including Andhra Pradesh; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed by the Government for the proper care, support and treatment of dementia patients in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes. WHO had released the World Dementia Report 2012 on the occasion of the World Health Day in April 2012 declaring "Dementia: A Public Health Priority". The report talks about the exponential increase in the number of persons with dementia in the next 20 years and provides knowledge base for a global and national response to facilitate governments, policymakers and other stakeholders to address the impact of dementia as an increasing threat to global health.

(c) & (d) : It is estimated that India's elderly population will increase from 7.5 per cent in 2001 to almost 12 percent in 20 years.

The estimated and projected number of elderly suffering from dementia in the States including Andhra Pradesh as per the Dementia India Report, 2010 brought out by the Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Society of India (ARDSI) are annexed.

(e): Till now, general facilities for 'early diagnosis and management' of Dementia exist in Government hospitals. Specialized treatment for Dementia is available in Institutions such as All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh and National Institute of Mental Health And Neuro Sciences, Bangalore. Further, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is implementing National Mental Health Programme for management of mental disorders which include treatment for behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia, in 123 districts.