

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1531

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2013

MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMMES POLICY

Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun;Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni;Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan ;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

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

- (a) the present status of implementation of the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) and the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP) indicating the funds earmarked, allocated and utilised thereunder during each of the last three years and the current year, State/ UT-wise;
- (b) the major activities undertaken and the achievements made as a result thereof under NMHP and DMHP during the said period, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether there is inadequate manpower and health infrastructure to tackle the rising number of cases of mental illness in the country and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to revamp/restructure the said programmes to overcome the above shortcomings and develop a comprehensive mental health action plan for the 12th Plan period; and
- (e) the progress made by the group constituted to frame a Mental Health Policy for India keeping in mind internationally accepted guidelines and also the specific context of mental illness in India?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): To address the huge burden of mental disorders and acute shortage of qualified professionals in the field of mental health, Government of India is implementing the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) since 1982 with the following components:

- i. District Mental Health Programme
- ii. Up-gradation of Psychiatric Wings of Govt. Medical Colleges
- iii. Modernization of Govt. Mental Hospitals

During the 11th Five Year Plan, the NMHP was restructured to include Manpower Development Schemes.

Under the Manpower Development Scheme (Scheme-A), 11 Centres of Excellence in the field of mental health have been established in the country.

Under Manpower Development Scheme (Scheme-B), support has been provided to 27 PG Departments in mental health specialties viz. Psychiatry (7 Departments), Clinical Psychology (7 Departments), Psychiatric Social Work (6 Departments) and Psychiatric Nursing (7 Departments).

As a result of implementation of Manpower Development Schemes (Scheme – A and Scheme - B) in the country a total of 312 new PG seats in mental health specialties have been created in the supported Institutes.

Further, the following achievements have been made as per given details:

- I. District Mental Health Programme with added components of Life Skills Education and Counselling in Schools and Colleges, suicide prevention services etc. is currently under implementation in 123 Districts of the country.
- II. Up-gradation of 88 Psychiatric Wings of Government Medical College has been supported under the scheme
- III. Modernization of 29 Government Mental Hospitals has been supported under the scheme.

The details of funds allocated and utilized under NMHP during last three financial years and the current financial year is at Annexure – I. The details of funds released under NMHP Scheme wise/ State wise/ UT wise during the last three years and the current year is at Annexure – II.

(c): As per the National Survey of Mental Health Resources carried out by the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare during May and July, 2002, the ideal required number of mental health professionals has been calculated as under:

- i. Psychiatrists : 1.0 per 1,00,000 population
- ii. Clinical Psychologist : 1.5 per 1,00,000 population
- iii. Psychiatric Social Workers : 2.0 per 1,00,000 population
- iv. Psychiatric Nurses : 1.0 per 10 psychiatric beds.

Based on the above, the details of present requirement and availability of mental health professionals in the country is as under:

Manpower	Requirement	Availability
Psychiatrist	11500	3800
Clinical Psychologist	17250	898
Psychiatric Social Workers	23000	850
Psychiatric Nurses	3000	1500
Total	54750	7048

There are 3 Centrally run mental health institutes, 40 State run mental hospitals and 335 Departments of Psychiatry in various medical colleges (154 in Government and 181 in private) across the country equipped to treat patients suffering from mental illness. List of Govt. Mental Health Institutes is at Annexure – .

(d): The 12th Plan proposal for NMHP aims at focusing on the functional and service delivery aspects of NMHP. It will emphasize on integration of mental health with general health, availability of mental health professionals, promotion of community participation in service delivery etc.

(e): The Government has constituted a Policy Group to work on framing a Mental Health Policy for India keeping in mind internationally accepted guidelines and also the specific context of mental illness in India.