

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:754
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2013
PERSONS WITH MENTAL DISORDERS
Gaddigoudar Shri P.C.

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to bring the patients with mental and nervous disorders under the purview of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 (PwD Act);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI P. BALRAM NAIK)

(a) to (c) Mental illness has been included as a category of disability under Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act (PwD Act), 1995, whereas nervous disorders has not been identified as a disability under the said Act. However under this Ministry's proposed draft Bill namely Rights for Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Bill, 2013 which is to replace the existing PwD Act, 1995; it has been proposed to include mental illness and chronic neurological conditions under the category of specified disability.