

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:141

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2013

HEALTHCARE OF ELDERLY PEOPLE

Dhanaplan Shri K. P.;Kurup Shri N.Peethambara

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

- (a) whether the number of people suffering from Alzheimer`s, Dementia and related elderly diseases is expected to increase manifold during the coming years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the number of such patients at present in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the action plan drawn by the Government for affordable treatment and healthcare of people suffering from Alzheimer`s, Dementia and related disorders in the country;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up a National Institute of Aging for the promotion of research on specific elderly diseases; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the other measures being taken by the Government for providing healthcare to the elderly population in the country?

**Answer**

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

(a)to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 141 FOR 16TH AUGUST, 2013

- (a) As per the estimates of Dementia India Report 2010, there were over 3.7 million persons with dementia (2.1 million women and 1.5 million men) This figure is expected to double every 20 years, i.e., to about 7 million persons by 2030 as the elderly population increases.
- (b) In India, the number of people with Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia is increasing every year because of the steady growth in the older population resulting from increased life expectancy. The ageing population now accounts for 10% of the population and will go up with longevity to 12% in the next 5 years. The estimated and projected number of elderly suffering from dementia in the States/UTs as per the Dementia India Report, 2010 brought out by the Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Society of India (ARDSI) is annexed.
- (c) Dementia can be properly diagnosed and treated by specialist physicians like psychiatrists, neurologists and geriatricians. In India, general facilities for 'early diagnosis and management' of Dementia exist in Government Hospitals and 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.
- (d) All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and Madras Medical College, Chennai have been identified for setting up National Institutes of Ageing during the 12th Five Year Plan.
- (e) The Government of India is implementing the National Programme for the Health Care of the Elderly which provides support to Regional Geriatric Centres, Geriatric Units, Rehabilitation Units and supports various other activities in accordance with the provisions of the National Policy for Older Persons. Under the National Mental Health Programme, the Government is implementing the District Mental Health Programme in 123 districts in the country for management of mental disorders which include treatment for behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia.