

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2977
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2009
BRAIN MAPPING
Mani Shri Jose K.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has set up a committee under the Director, National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) to examine the brain mapping procedures in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether brain mapping procedure in criminal investigation are based on scientific methods;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether brain mapping procedure in criminal investigation followed in the country comply with the Danbert criteria for admissibility of expert evidence in courts; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

- (a) & (b): According to the information received, a committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Professor D. Nagaraja, Director, National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences (NIMHANS) to study the brain mapping procedure. The committee, which has submitted its report, has referred to the Daubert standard criteria.
- (c) to (f): The constitutionality of the tests like narco-analysis, brain mapping, and lie detector test as tools of investigation in criminal cases has been challenged through Criminal Appeal No. 1267 of 2004 in the matter of Selvi and others vs. State of Karnataka before the Supreme Court of India. The Supreme Court of India has not pronounced a verdict. The matter is sub-judice.