

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4425
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2014
MERCY KILLING/ EUTHANASIA
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether the Government has examined the matter of mercy killing or euthanasia, if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has received any request/representations in this regard, if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to frame a legislation in order to regulate mercy killing or euthanasia in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) to (c). i. The matter of mercy killing was examined by the Department of Health & Family Welfare in consultation with the Ministry of Law & Justice, and after examination, it has been decided that the Hon'ble Supreme Court has laid down the law on the subject in its judgment in Aruna Ramchandra Shanbaug's case which will be followed in all such cases. Presently, there is no proposal to enact any legislation on the subject and the judgment of the Supreme Court is binding on all.

ii. The representations received in the matter are examined in consultation with the Directorate General of Health Services and, based on such examination, a response is sent to the persons from whom the representation had been received as per the guidelines laid down by the Supreme Court on euthanasia in its judgment in WRIT PETITION (CRIMINAL) NO. 115 OF 2009- Aruna Ramchandra Shanbaug Vs Uol and others.