

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 30.11.2007
ANSWERED ON
IMPROVING OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES .

1265

Shri Sanjay Raut

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are 5-6 million people who are chronically disabled due to acute mental illness and about one lakh people die every year of suicide;
- (b) if so, Government's response thereto; and
- (c) the details of corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken for improving mental health services in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a): Epidemiological studies have revealed that 1 to 2% of the population has major mental disorders and 5 to 10% suffer from minor mental disorders. As per the records of National Crime Records Bureau, the number of suicides reported in the country during the period 2004-2006 is as under:

Year	Total no. of suicides.
2004	1,13,697
2005	1,13,914
2006	1,18,112 (provisional)

(b) & (c) : Under National Mental Health Programme, efforts are made to provide mental health services as a part of general health system. In this regard, Central Government supplements the State Governments' efforts through District Mental Health Programme, Strengthening of Psychiatric Wings of Medical Colleges/General Hospitals and Modernisation/Upgradation of Mental Hospitals to make them as therapeutic units. The Govt. proposes to re-strategise the Nation Mental Health Programme during 11th Plan to expand District Mental Health Programme to cover the areas of suicide prevention, stress management, School Mental Health etc. and also to create infrastructure for production of quality manpower/training of personnel etc. for effective delivery of mental health services.