

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 18.08.2006**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**BUDGETARY PROVISIONS FOR MENTAL HEALTH OF CHILDREN .**

2345

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that about 65 million children and young people in the country suffer from mental disorders, but no specific fund allocation is being made in the Union Budget for child and adolescent mental health;
- (b) if so, the details of steps being taken to review the programmes to make suitable shift in the health and nurturing policies of Government and to make adequate financial allocations for the child mental health; and
- (c) the details of percentage of GDP being spent on the development and emotional well being of children by some other countries?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE

(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) The data relating to the number of children and young people suffering from mental disorder is not centrally maintained. However, as per Census of India 2001, the number of children in the age group 0 – 14 years suffering from mental disabilities was 5,34,818, nation wide.

The restructured National Mental Health Programme is a major initiative by the Central Government in the field of Mental Health. A sum of Rs. 139 crores has been allocated for the National Mental Health Programme during the 10th Five Year Plan. The programme covers all groups including children and adolescents.

(c) As per the WHO publication – “Atlas – Child and Adolescent mental health resources”, child and adolescent mental health services funding is rarely identifiable in the country budgets.