GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OFHEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA

QUESTION NO10.12.2004

ANSWERED ON

PEOPLE SUFFERING FROM MENTAL ILLNESS.

155 SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI

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

- (a) the number of persons suffering from mental illness at present in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the number of persons deprived of the medical facility, State-wise and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps Government propose to take to provide adequate medical facilities for mentally ill persons?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 155 FOR 10TH DECEMBER, 2004

It is estimated that about 5% of the population suffers from various psychological disorders such as depression, neurotic, stress related and adjustment disorders. About 1% of the population suffers from a serious mental disorder such as psychotic disorders and 0.5% of the population may be in need of active treatment for a serious mental disorder. However, data relating to the number of persons suffering from mental illness State-wise is not centrally maintained at present.

Efforts of the Government now are to diagnose the mentally ill patients at the early stage and treat them through the general health care delivery system. Adequate medical facilities are available to treat the mentally ill patients. In order to provide increased access and better quality of mental health care, the Government has expanded the National Mental Health Programme during the Tenth Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs.139 crores in order to expand District Mental Health Programme to cover 100 districts in the country, strengthen the 37 Government mental health institutes and also psychiatric wings of 75 medical colleges, undertake IEC activities and research and training.