

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 25.04.2008
ANSWERED ON
NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMME .

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SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to review the contents of the National Mental Health Programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken/ expected to be taken to post more psychiatrists in the hospitals to provide better care and by when?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE

(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

- (a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Govt. proposes to re-strategise the National Mental Health Programme in 11th Five Year Plan 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 deliver of mental health services.
- (c) The shortage of psychiatrists and mental health professional is being addressed in the re-strategised National Mental Health Programme for the 11th Five Year Plan by having short-term training for general health care personnel. Also more teaching institutes on the pattern of NIMHANS are being planned at regional level so that adequate number of psychiatrists are available.