

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 724  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 8<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2022**

**WHO REPORT ON THE MENTAL HEALTH ATLAS**

**724. DR. FAUZIA KHAN:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per the WHO report on the Mental Health Atlas, there are just three psychiatrists, and even lesser number of psychologists for every million people in India, which is 18 times fewer than the Commonwealth norm of 5.6 psychiatrists per 100,000 people; and
- (b) the details of the steps that have been taken in this regard to increase the workforce in this sector?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) & (b): As per the WHO Mental Health Atlas, 2017, there are about three psychiatrists and fewer number of psychologists for every million people in India. However, with a view to augment the availability of qualified manpower in field of mental health, the Government, under the National Mental Health Programme, is implementing manpower development schemes for establishment of Centres of Excellence and strengthening/ establishment of Post Graduate (PG) Departments in mental health specialties. Till date, support has been provided for establishment of 25 Centres of Excellence and strengthening/ establishment of 47 Post Graduate (PG) Departments in mental health specialties in the country.

The Government is also augmenting the availability of manpower to deliver mental healthcare services in the underserved areas of the country by providing online training courses to various categories of general healthcare medical and para medical professionals through the Digital Academies established at the three Central Mental Health Institutes namely National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bengaluru, Lokopriya Gopinath Bordoloi Regional Institute of Mental Health, Tezpur, Assam, and Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi. In addition, opening of new AIIMS and support for 75 new medical colleges all over the country have also increased the trained manpower in the area of mental health.