

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1869  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2016**

**KEEPING MENTAL ILLNESS OUT FROM THE DISABILITY LAW**

**1869. DR. SANJAY SINH:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to keep out mental illness from the ambit of long delayed law planned on disabilities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is aware that mental illness all over the world is considered as disability; and
- (d) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
AND FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)**

(a) to (d): As per information furnished by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities), Mental Illness is included as a disability in the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995. In the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014 introduced by the Government in Rajya Sabha on 07.02.2014, Mental Illness is also included as a specified disability.

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