

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.972**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON 26<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2016**

**PATIENTS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS**

**972. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that in many parts of the country, the number of patients suffering from mental illness is increasing continuously;
- (b) if so, whether Government is considering to take any concrete steps to stop this; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a): In 2005, the National Commission on Macroeconomics and Health reported that 10-20 million (1-2% of population) suffered from severe mental disorders such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder and nearly 50 million (5% of population) from common mental disorders such as depression and anxiety, yielding an overall estimate of 6.5 per cent of the population.

(b) & (c): To address the burden of mental disorders, the Government of India is implementing the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) and the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP). Funds have been released for 241 districts in the country under the DMHP for detection, management and treatment of mental disorders/ illness. With the objective to address the shortage of mental health professionals in the country, 15 Centers of Excellence in Mental Health and 35 PG training departments in mental health specialties to increase the PG training capacity in mental health as well as improving the tertiary care treatment facility have been funded. Besides, three Central Institutions viz. National Institute of Mental Health And Neuro Sciences, Bangalore, Lokopriya Gopinath Bordoloi Regional Institute of Mental Health, Tezpur and Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi have been strengthened for augmenting the human resources in the area of mental health and for capacity building in the country. During the 12th Five Year Plan, the DMHP has been restructured to include additional components like suicide prevention services, work place stress management, life skills training and counseling in schools and colleges. Support is also provided for Central/ State Mental Health Authorities, Research and Training and Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities.

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