

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 11.08.2006**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**MENTAL HEALTH AMONG CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS .**

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SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI

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

- (a) what is the estimated percentage of children in the country suffering from problems of mental health;
- (b) how much money has been allocated for mental health care for children and adolescents; and
- (c) what programmes his Ministry is running for awareness about mentally challenged persons or for those suffering from other mental problems?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) The data relating to the percentage of children suffering from problems of mental health is not centrally maintained. However, as per Census of India 2001, the number of children in the age group 0 – 14 years suffering from mental disabilities was 5,34,818.

(b) & (c) Restructured National Mental Health Programme is a major initiative by the Central Government in the field of Mental Health. The main components of the programme are:

1. District Mental Health Programme
2. Strengthening of Psychiatric wings of Medical Colleges
3. Upgradation of Mental Hospitals
4. IEC
5. Research & Training

A sum of Rs. 139 crores has been allocated for National Mental Health Programme during 10th Five Year Plan. The programme covers all groups including children and adolescents.