

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:957
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2004
MENTAL DISORDERS
Kanodia Shri Mahesh Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the number of patients with mental disorders is constantly increasing in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is contemplating to take any concrete steps to check this; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) The number of persons with mental disorders is increasing due to changes in demographics such as increase in population and over all increase in the rate of depression world wide. Epidemiological studies have revealed that 1 to 2% of the population have major mental disorders and 5 to 10% suffer from minor mental disorders.

(b) & (c) During the 10th Five Year Plan, the Government has launched National Mental Health Programme with an outlay of Rs.190 crores in order to expand District Mental Health Programme to cover 100 districts in the country; for providing community based services, strengthening the Government mental health institutes and also psychiatric wings of medical colleges, undertake IEC activities and research and training. These measures will provide better mental health services in the country.