

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6498  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2018**

**MENTAL HEALTHCARE FOR KIDS**

**6498. SHRI B.N. CHANDRAPPA:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note that there is a need to take steps to create professionals to deal with children suffering from behavioural issues particularly at the schooling stage;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is taking any steps to create a pool of trained professionals, such as para professionals, therapists and behaviour analysts with adequate training and practice to deal with affected children; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (d): With a view to increase the number of mental health professionals in the country, the Government, under the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP), is implementing manpower development schemes by establishing Centres of Excellence and strengthening/ establishment of Post Graduate 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. 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 also been strengthened for augmenting human resources in the area of mental health and for capacity building in the country.

The Government is also implementing the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP) for detection, management and treatment of mental disorders/illness in 517 districts of the country with the major components of counselling in schools and colleges, work place stress management, life skills training, suicide prevention services and IEC activities for generation of awareness and removal of stigma associated with Mental Illness.

.....