

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4039
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04TH JANUARY, 2019**

SUICIDE IN INDIA

4039. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:

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

- (a) whether his Ministry has conducted a study in collaboration with Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and other institutes to examine the extent and reasons of suicide in India and if so, the details and outcome thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that the report states that 37 per cent of all women committing suicide world-over is Indians and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has ascertained the reasons for disproportionately high rate of suicide among Indian women and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government is developing a suicide-prevention strategy and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): As per the Report “India: Health of the Nation’s States” prepared by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and the Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), the percentage of deaths due to suicide and interpersonal violence is 2.8% of total deaths in the country. Between the years 1990 and 2016, India’s contribution to global suicide rate increased from 25.3% to 36.6% among women. The causes of suicide have their origin in the social, economic, cultural, psychological and health status of an individual. The individual risk factors for suicide include, inter-alia, previous suicide attempt, mental disorders, harmful use of alcohol, job or financial loss, hopelessness, chronic pain, family history of suicide and genetic and biological factors.

(d): The Government has constituted a Committee for development of a National Strategy for Suicide Prevention. Further, to address the burden of mental disorders, the Government of India is implementing the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) since 1982. The Government is supporting implementation of the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP) under NMHP in 517 districts of the country with the objectives to:

- (i) Provide mental health services including prevention, promotion and longterm continuing care at different levels of district healthcare delivery system.
- (ii) Augment institutional capacity in terms of infrastructure, equipment and human resource for mental healthcare.
- (iii) Promote community awareness and participation in the delivery of mental healthcare services.
- (iv) Provide suicide prevention services, work place stress management, life skills training and counseling in schools and colleges.