

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.

Impact of sustained radiation exposure on asthmatics

973. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL:

SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that people working in a closed office environment where there are many computers are at risk of sustained radiation exposure, which can cause several ailments including asthma;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to come out with any remedial measures to prevent asthma for the people working in such environment; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that there are more than 15-20 million asthmatics in India and that upto 15 per cent of children have asthma and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL): (a) and (b) As informed by the National Institute of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases (NITRD), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, radiation emanating from computers causing several ailments is not substantiated. NITRD has further informed that there are no evidence based studies in this regard.

(c) As reported by Indian Council of Medical Research, the national burden of asthma in India is estimated at 17.23 million as per the study carried out.

As per WHO report, rough estimates indicate prevalence of asthma between 10% and 15% in 5 to 11 year old children in India.

Corruption in MCI

†974. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is contemplating constituting a new organisation by dismantling the Medical Council of India (MCI) to meet the shortage of doctors and to bring reforms in the field of medical education; if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.