

services of the hospital were maintained by deployment of medical officers and faculty members. All the patients attending the Emergency were attended to and provided with treatment. No patient death due to lack of medical support has been reported. Patients in ward were looked after by senior doctors.

Since Health is a State subject, no such information is maintained centrally. In so far as three Central Government hospitals in Delhi i.e. Safdarjung hospital, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia (RML) hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College(LHMC) and Associated hospitals are concerned, there were a few number of strikes due to fight between doctors and attendants of patients during the last three years.

The Government has taken several measures to ensure non-recurrence of these strikes, which are as under:-

- CCTV cameras have been installed at sensitive areas of the hospitals.
- Quick Response Teams (QRTs) formed to avoid non-recurrence of any such incident round the clock.
- Marshalls are specifically deployed in each shift to safeguard doctors and hospital property.
- Security guards are deployed at all entrances, OPDs, wards and strategic places to keep an eye on nuisance mongers.
- Signage displayed in these hospitals for prevention of violence and damage of property Act, 2018.
- Doctors, paramedical and other staff of the hospitals are being advised from time to time to be polite and sympathetic with patients specially those who are in crisis.

#### **Suicide deaths in India**

198. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a recent study conducted by Government agencies suggested that India is a major contributor to World's suicide deaths, particularly among younger generation, if so, the details thereof;

(b) States which have reported high suicide rates and major reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has any plan to make concerted efforts to reduce this avoidable loss of human lives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL): (a) 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, and from 18.7% to 24.3% among men. Suicide was the leading cause of death in India in 2016 for those aged 15-39 years; 71.2% of the suicide deaths among women and 57.7% among men were in this age group.

(b) As per the report, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal have reported the highest suicide death rates in the country between 1990 and 2016. 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.

(c) To address the burden of mental disorders, the Government of India is implementing the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) since 1982. Under this Programme, the Government is supporting implementation of the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP) in 517 districts of the country with the objectives to:

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