

Pandemic related rise in mental illness cases

1069. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards any recent survey by the Indian Psychiatry Society (IPS) in which they found that the number of mental illness cases had increased by 20 per cent since the lockdown, and that at least one in five Indians were affected;

(b) if so, details thereof and Government's response thereto;

(c) whether the IPS has warned that loss of livelihood and increasing levels of economic hardship and isolation amid the pandemic could trigger a new mental health crisis in India and may substantially increase the risk of suicide in the country; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has not received any such survey report from the Indian Psychiatric Society. However, realizing the impact that COVID-19 may have on the mental health of the people, the Government has taken a number of initiatives to provide psychosocial support during COVID-19. These initiatives include:—

- (i) Setting up of a 24/7 helpline to provide psychosocial support, by mental health professionals, to the entire affected population, divided into different target groups *viz* children, adult, elderly, women anti healthcare workers.
- (ii) Issuance of guidelines/advisories on management of mental health issues, catering to different segments of the society.
- (iii) Advocacy through various media platforms in the form of creative and audio-visual materials on managing stress and anxiety, and promoting an environment of support and care for all.
- (iv) Issuance of detailed guidelines by the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru- "Mental Health in the times of COVID-19 Pandemic - Guidance for General Medical and Specialized Mental Health Care Settings".

- (v) All the guidelines, advisories and advocacy material can be accessed on Ministry of Health and Family Welfare website under "Behavioural Health-Psychosocial helpline" (<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/>).
- (vi) Online capacity building of health workers by NIMHANS in providing psychosocial support and training through (iGOT)-Diksha platform.

Corona care facilities under the CGHS

1070. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether proper facilities are available to CGHS beneficiaries for their coronavirus treatment in Government hospitals;
- (b) the fees structure fixed by Government for coronavirus treatment in private hospitals;
- (c) whether CGHS empaneled hospitals are providing cashless treatment to retired Government personnel;
- (d) whether any instructions have been issued by Government for the cashless treatment to retired Government servants who are above 60 years of age; and
- (e) if so, details of the same and, if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) Yes. Proper facilities are available to CGHS beneficiaries for their coronavirus treatment in Central Government hospitals.

(b) Public Health and Hospitals being State Subject, fee structure for corona treatment in private hospitals is notified by the concerned State Health Authorities. As per this Ministry's OM No. 6-52/CGHS/GR.CELL/2020/DIR/CGHS dated 10.07.2020, the CGHS rates for treatment for COVID-19 in private empanelled hospitals in respect of CGHS beneficiaries in a city shall be as per the rates prescribed by the concerned State Government. In case no such rates have been prescribed by the State Government in any CGHS city, the rates prescribed by Government of NCT Delhi shall be applicable, till rates are notified by the concerned State Government.