

**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment**

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**Persons with Mental Disorders**

Mental illness has been included as a category of disability under Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act (PwD Act), 1995, whereas nervous disorders has not been identified as a disability under the said Act. However under this Ministry's proposed draft Bill namely Rights for Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Bill, 2013 which is to replace the existing PwD Act, 1995; it has been proposed to include mental illness and chronic neurological conditions under the category of specified disability.

This information was given by the Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, Shri P. Balram Naik in a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha today.

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