

[English]

Snake Bite Vaccine

2654. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of deaths reported due to snake bite in each State during the last year;

(b) whether any vaccine has been developed to cure snake bite; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) Reliable information is not available.

(b) and (c). No preventive vaccine is available against snake bite. However, polyvalent antsnake venom serum is available for treatment.

[Translation]

Sone Irrigation Scheme

2655. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:
SHRI LALL BABU RAI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has submitted a proposal to the Union Government for construction of reservoir to provide adequate quantity of water for Sone Irrigation Scheme,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b). The State Government of Bihar had initially submitted a proposal of Kadwan Reservoir project to Central Water Commission in August, 1987 for techno-economic appraisal. The project envisages stabilisation of water availability for Sone Canal system at Indrapuri Barrage. Subsequently the State Government also added a power component in the proposal. After examination in Central Water Commission, the report was sent back to the State Government for submitting integrated modified proposal alongwith concurrence of State Government of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh regarding submergence of their territory in the reservoir.

(c) The State Government of Bihar has reported that concurrence of Government of Madhya Pradesh has since been obtained. The clearance of the project depends on how soon the Government of Bihar modifies the project and obtains concurrence of State Government of Uttar Pradesh for submergence of its area and arranges techno-economic clearance to the integrated modified project report.

News Service Division

2656. SHRI AVTAR SINGH
BHADANA:
SHRI SHIVLAL NAGJIBHAI
VEKARIA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to strengthen the monitoring unit of the News Service Division of All India Radio for monitoring the Hindi News Bulletin broadcast by foreign Radio Stations has been included in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Government has received a proposal for creation of certain posts for monitoring Hindi news bulletins broadcast by foreign radio organisation as a part of the Eighth Five Year plan Scheme, 'Strengthening of News Services of All India Radio'. The proposal is under examination.

Water Supply

2657. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate supply of water is being made available to Gujarat by the Union Government as per the agreement;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) No complaint has been received by the Union Government from the State Government of Gujarat about inadequate supply of

water from the inter-state rivers as per the existing agreements.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Reservation Laws

2658. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to include the laws pertaining to reservation in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution so that the reservation issue could not be challenged in the courts; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b). The State Government of Tamil Nadu had approached the Centre for securing the Tribe Bill, 1994 to provide for reservation of seats in educational institutions in the State and of appointments or posts in the services under the State for the Backward Classes of citizens and for persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the State of Tamil Nadu. The Bill has received the assent of the President on 19th July, 1994. Now the Tamil Nadu Government has approached the Centre once again for inclusion of the Act in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution. The main reason given by the Tamil Nadu Government for inclusion of this Act in the Ninth Schedule is that it will get protection of Article 31(b) of the Fundamental Rights.

The inclusion of this Act in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution under consideration of the Government.