

(c) The total expenditure incurred on reclamation operations by the Central Tractor Organisation from its inception in 1946 up to 31-3-1952 is Rs. 4,12,63,045.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

752. Shri K. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of casualties (injured or dead) in industrial accidents during the last two years (year-wise) in India; and

(b) the number of workers remaining absent from their duties due to such accidents on an average per day and the loss in production annually?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Information available in respect of accidents in factories during 1950 and 1951 in Part A States and the States of Ajmer, Coorg, Delhi and Andaman and Nicobar Islands is as follows:

	Number of accidents in factories	
	Fatal	Non-fatal
1950	496	1,44,836
1951	360	1,09,974

The figures for 1951 do not include those for West Bengal as they are not yet available.

(b) In the case of non-fatal accidents in which the injured workers returned to work later, the average number of persons absent from duty per day in 1950 was 2,525 in the Part A States (except Bihar and Orissa) and the States of Ajmer, Coorg, Delhi and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The corresponding figure for 1951 was 2,298 in the Part A States (except West Bengal) and the States of Ajmer, Coorg, Delhi and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

No information is available regarding loss in production. The time-loss on account of accidents, however, comes to 0.11 per cent in 1950 and 0.13 per cent in 1951.

GUINEA WORM

753. Shri Bheekha Bhai: (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the disease named 'Guinea Worm'?

(b) In what parts of the country has this disease spread?

(c) What are the causes of this disease?

(d) Has any research been made to investigate into the causes of this disease?

(e) Have any doctors specialised in this disease?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) The disease is prevalent in the States of Bombay, Madras, Rajasthan, Madhya Bharat, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Orissa, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Hyderabad and Coorg.

(c) The disease is caused by a worm which is long, thin and of milky white colour. It lives beneath the skin anywhere in the body but commonly on the leg of the patient. A blister develops on the leg or foot where the worm is lodged and when it bursts, a red ulcer is formed through which the worm can be seen. When the affected part comes in contact with water, the worm, which is packed with embryos, passes the embryos into water. These embryos are subsequently taken up by small insects known as cyclops when they are present in water. Man is infected by drinking the water containing such infected cyclops.

(d) Yes. Many researches have been made on several aspects of this disease in many parts of the world and in India. Recently in Rajasthan, researches were undertaken under a grant from the Indian Council of Medical Research on the evaluation of new remedies in the treatment of this disease.

(e) Qualified doctors are familiar with the principles of prevention and treatment required for this disease.