

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 70
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13TH DECEMBER, 2022**

STEPS TAKEN TO REDUCE DEATHS DUE TO SNAKE BITES

70. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether, as per WHO report, around 58,000 people are dying due to snake bites in the country and if so, the steps being taken by Government to decrease the death rate due to snake bites;
- (b) whether 90 per cent deaths are happening due to snake bite in rural areas, if so, steps taken by Government to set up medical infrastructure in rural areas;
- (c) whether existing companies are able to produce sufficient anti-venom medicines to treat snake bite patients and if so, details of the companies along with production capacity; and
- (d) if not, steps taken to increase production of anti-venom medicine?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)**

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 70* FOR 13TH DECEMBER, 2022**

(a) to (d) As per the information received from WHO country office, India, WHO has not released any report on mortality due to snakebites.

As per information received from States/UTs, 626 deaths have been reported in year 2020.

Government of India provides financial assistance to all states under National Health Mission (NHM) for strengthening public health care system including setting up of new hospitals and infrastructure upgradation under various schemes including management of snake bite cases. Further to ensure drugs availability, Anti-Snake Venom (ASV), has already been included in the National Essential Drug List and State Governments have also been communicated to include ASV in essential drug list.

As per approval in Mission Steering Group (MSG) of NHM, additional activities have been added for prevention and control of snake bites for implementation across all states/UTs from the financial year 2023-24. These includes awareness on snake bite prevention and first aid, capacity building of frontline health workers and IEC activities.

The detail of the Manufacturers for Anti-Snake Venom Serum with installed capacity is as follows:

S. No.	Name of Manufacturer	Installed Capacity (Vials/annum)
1.	M/s Virchow Biotech Pvt. Ltd.	4,32,000
2.	M/s Haffkine Biopharmaceuticals Corporation Limited	4,50,000
3.	M/s Biological E. Limited	8,40,000
4.	M/s Premium Serums and Vaccines Pvt. Ltd.	14,40,000
5.	M/s Bharat Serums and Vaccines Limited	21,00,000
6.	M/s VINS Bioproducts Limited	13,60,000
7.	M/s Central Research Institute	10,000
8.	M/s Serum Institute of India Pvt. Ltd., Pune	1,20,000
