

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2192  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2023**

**RIISING OF SNAKE BITE DEATHS IN THE COUNTRY**

**2192. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than 1.2 million snakebite deaths occurred since the last twenty years and an average of 64,000 people died annually in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that such snake bite cases are rising due to limited awareness, superstitions, lack of trained health providers and poor utilization of anti-venom results in high mortality and morbidity in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to improve the health infrastructure in the country?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(PROF. SATYA PAL SINGH BAGHEL)**

(a) to (d):

As per Central Bureau of Health Intelligence report, based on the data submitted by State/UTs, a total of 13,043 deaths due to snakebites have occurred in the country from 2010 to 2020.

National Guidelines on Snakebite Management Protocol for use by medical officers have been issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2009 and the same were updated in 2016. Protocol for initial management of Snake bite cases for medical officers at Primary Health Center/ Community Health Centers have been developed and disseminated to all States/UTs.

ICMR has also constituted a National Task Force for Research on Snake Bite in India in 2019 for expanding and strengthening research for mitigation of the problem due to Snake Bites.

Awareness of general population on prevention of snakebites and addressing misconceptions related to snakebites is undertaken through IEC activities besides training of frontline health workers for first aid to snakebite victims.

Government of India also 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.

Additional activities have been added for prevention and control of snake bites for implementation across all states/UTs have been included under NHM which include provision of anti - snake venom under National Free Drugs Initiative and specific funds for capacity building and training of frontline health workers.

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