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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1058 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2025

CASES OF SNAKEBITE IN KARNATAKA

1058 DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that snakebites are a big problem in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is aware that Karnataka has high number of snakebite cases and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to address the issue of snakebite;
- (d) whether any funds have been allocated for the same and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether there has been any awareness campaign on poisonous snakes and if so, the details thereof along with the funding provided in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE

(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

(a) to (c): The Government is aware of the snake bites problem. The States and UTs of India are reporting snakebite cases regularly on Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) portal.

National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has launched National Action Plan for "Prevention and Control of Snake bite Envenoming (NAPSE)" which is a guidance document that aims at systematic reduction of snakebite envenoming risk through sustained availability of Anti Snake Venom, Capacity building, referral mechanism and public education that can be accessed at https://ncdc.mohfw.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/NATIONAL-ACTION-PLAN-FOR-PREVENTION-AND-CONTROL-OF-SNAKEBITE-ENVENOMING-NAPSE.pdf.

To address the burden of snakebite in India, NCDC, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is implementing "Programme for Prevention and Control of Snakebite Envenoming" in all States/UTs under National Health Mission. The activities included are;

- Provision of Anti Snake Venom under National Free Drug Initiative
- Funds for Capacity building and training of Health care professionals
- Awareness campaigns
- Protocol for initial management of snakebite cases for Medical Officers at Primary Health Centre (PHC)/ Community Health Centre (CHC) level has been framed and disseminated to all States/UTs.

(d): The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare provides technical and financial support to States/UTs under the National Health Mission (NHM), based on the proposals received in Program Implementation Plans (PIPs) from the States/UTs. The details of the PIP State/UT wise may be seen at the following link:

https://nhm.gov.in/index1.php?lang=1&level=1&sublinkid=1377&lid=744

- (e): Various initiatives taken by the Government on awareness generation on snakebite is;
 - ➤ A Booklet on Snakebite Prevention and Control: Available in both Hindi and English, this booklet provides comprehensive guidelines on snakebite prevention, control, and initial first aid measures for snakebite victims.
 - ➤ Posters on Do's and Don'ts for Snakebites: Designed for use in the general community, these posters are available in Hindi and English, offering practical advice to minimize risks and ensure proper response to snakebites.
 - ➤ A Video on Snakebite Awareness: Produced in 10 regional languages, this video aims to educate diverse populations effectively about snakebite prevention, first aid, and the importance of seeking timely medical attention.
