

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 273
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2026**

SNAKEBITE FATALITIES AND AVAILABILITY OF ANTI-SNAKE VENOM

273 SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that India continues to record one of the world's highest snakebite fatalities despite the availability of Anti-Snake Venom (ASV);
- (b) the number of snakebite cases, deaths and ASV shortages in PHCs, CHCs and District Hospitals during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government has assessed the adequacy of domestic ASV production, including the capacity of public sector manufacturers such as Haffkine Bio-Pharmaceutical Corporation Ltd, and the need for financial support; and
- (d) the measures being taken to strengthen ASV production, develop region-specific antivenoms, improve emergency treatment and achieve the target of reducing snakebite deaths by 2030?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY
WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (d) : To address the burden of snakebite in India, National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) is implementing “Programme for Prevention and Control of Snakebite Envenoming” in all States/UTs under National Health Mission. Also to ensure the affordability and accessibility of polyvalent Anti Snake Venom (ASV) at each level, ASV has been included under the National and State Essential Drug List. The States/UTs can procure funds for ASV through National Free Drug Initiative under National Health Mission (NHM).

(Ref- National list of essential medicines 2022 page no. 68/134 Link https://cdsco.gov.in/opencms/opencms/system/modules/CDSCO.WEB/elements/download_file_division.jsp?num_id=OTAxMw)

Snakebite related treatment is part of Health System Strengthening (HSS) component of NHM. Therefore, support is provided to all states/UT for ensuring availability of emergency medicines, equipment's, transport mechanism related to snakebite and other emergency conditions.

Steps to address the issue of snakebite are enclosed at **Annexure-1**.

Number of snakebite cases and deaths as reported by States/UTs during the last three under the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) - Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) years is enclosed at **Annexure-2**.

As per the information received from the Drugs Controller General of India, the combined annual production capacity of government and private manufacturers is adequate to meet the country's requirement for Anti-Snake Venom (ASV), based on the annual snakebite cases reported by States/UTs under the IDSP-IHIP. Public sector manufacturers producing ASV at the State level are supported by their respective State Governments.

Health is a State subject and the responsibility of strengthening public healthcare system lies with the respective State/ Union Territory Governments. Under National Health Mission (NHM), the Ministry provides technical and financial support to States/ Union Territory for strengthening their healthcare systems based on the proposals submitted by them in their Program Implementation Plans (PIPs), subject to norms & availability of resources.

ANNEXURE-1

The following are the initiatives taken by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW):

- To strengthen effective implementation of snakebite prevention and control activities in the country, funds are being provided to states for,
 - a. Training of health professionals on Snake bite management, emergency care, control etc. at State and District level;
 - b. Meetings for advocacy, intersectoral coordination etc.,
 - c. Surveillance and monitoring
 - d. Public Awareness through IEC
- To strengthen surveillance of snakebite cases and deaths, communication was sent from MoHFW to all the states and UTs to make it a **notifiable** disease under state public health act and other applicable legislation. Till date 12 states (Assam, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Odisha, Punjab, Bihar and Jharkhand) have made Snakebite cases and deaths notifiable in their respective states.
- To ensure **comprehensive data collection**, all the states and UTs are on boarded on Integrated Disease Surveillance Program (IDSP)-Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) for reporting of snakebite cases and deaths.
- In line with global call to halve deaths due to snakebite by year 2030, **the National Action Plan for Prevention and Control of Snakebite Envenoming (NAPSE)** was developed in consultation with relevant ministries and stakeholders i.e. Ministry of Environment forest & Climate change (MoEFCC), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying (MoF&AHD), Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA), Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR), NITI AYOOG etc. It was officially launched on March 12, 2024.
- (Link of NAPSE guideline- <https://ncdc.mohfw.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/NATIONAL-ACTION-PLAN-FOR-PREVENTION-AND-CONTROL-OF-SNAKEBITE-ENVENOMING-NAPSE.pdf>)
- For **capacity building** of health care providers, various initiatives are taken.

ANNEXURE 2

State Wise Details of Snakebite Cases and Deaths in India

S.N O.	STATE/UT	2023		2024		2025	
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	104	0	95	0	160	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	4812	6	4582	41	4707	13
3	Arunachal Pradesh	112	0	119	0	177	0
4	Assam	3875	4	10424	15	11817	13
5	Bihar	1891	11	2424	3	4346	3
6	Chandigarh	12	0	9	0	3	0
7	Chhattisgarh	812	2	1788	5	2594	4
8	Delhi	183	0	142	0	74	0
9	Goa	463	0	571	0	568	0
10	Gujarat	3435	4	6044	4	8030	16
11	Haryana	176	0	284	0	425	0
12	Himachal Pradesh	242	0	385	1	627	0
13	Jammu And Kashmir	969	13	1239	18	1165	8
14	Jharkhand	1496	15	2617	22	3776	26
15	Karnataka	6596	19	13235	101	16805	160
16	Kerala	1235	0	2419	1	2987	2
17	Ladakh	0	0	0	0	5	0
18	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Madhya Pradesh	1464	12	3339	14	3081	26
20	Maharashtra	9138	2	9148	7	8558	23
21	Manipur	30	0	169	0	173	0
22	Meghalaya	278	0	558	1	655	1
23	Mizoram	111	0	279	1	269	0
24	Nagaland	103	0	102	0	157	0
25	Odisha	9325	29	16682	31	15815	23
26	Puducherry	202	0	214	0	305	0
27	Punjab	125	0	103	0	169	0
28	Rajasthan	1487	0	1917	2	3406	1
29	Sikkim	119	1	115	0	96	0
30	Tamil Nadu	19795	43	16142	27	15837	26
31	Telangana	2567	0	2483	0	2998	0
32	The Dadra And Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu	542	0	491	0	539	0
33	Tripura	680	0	922	0	1146	0
34	Uttar Pradesh	515	1	747	12	1086	19
35	Uttarakhand	131	0	306	0	275	0

36	West Bengal	13269	21	20888	69	27471	65
TOTAL		86294	183	12098 2	375	14030 2	429

*Accessed from IHIP on 13.07.2026
