

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1917  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2019**

**SNAKE BITES**

**1917. SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY:**

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

- (a) the estimated number of deaths occurred from snake bites in the country during the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has assessed the reasons for the high number of deaths from snake bites and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether snake bite management is a part of the medical curriculum in medical colleges and students are adequately trained to manage snake bite case and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether facilities for anti-venom production are available in all Government hospitals in the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure adequate availability of anti-venom to treat snake bites in the country?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): As per data available with Central Bureau of Health Intelligence (CBHI), under this Ministry the State/UT-wise details of cases and deaths reported due to snake bites, during the last three years in the country are given in the Annexure.

(b): Snake bite is mainly an accidental/occupational hazard in tropical and subtropical countries, where rural populations are mainly affected. It is a common occupational hazard mainly in farmers, plantation workers, herders and labourers leading to significant morbidity and mortality that remains largely unreported. The bites inflicted are frequently accidental as when snakes are trodden upon or could result due to sleeping on floor and open style habitation.

(c): Yes, snake bite management is a part of the medical curriculum in medical colleges and students are adequately trained to manage snake bites cases i.e. diagnosis, intravenous (I/V) fluid, management of shock, institution of Anti-Snake venom & management of complications.

(d) & (e): Facility for production of anti-venom is not available in the Government hospitals. However, there are vaccine manufacturing institutes, engaged in production of anti-snake venom serum as under:

- Central Research Institute (CRI), Kasauli
- Haffkine Bio-Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited (HBPCL), Mumbai
- Biological E Ltd., Hyderabad
- King Institute of Preventive Medicine and Research (KIPM), Chennai
- Bharat Serums & Vaccine Ltd., Thane

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has issued directions to all the States/UTs to include Anti Snake Venom Serum (ASVS) in the list of essential drugs of the State, procure these drugs locally for supply to Health Facilities for use to the needy persons and support the same under National Health Mission.

**Annexure**

**State/UT-wise Cases and Deaths due to Snake Bite during the years 2016 – 2018**

S. No.	State /U.T	2016		2017		2018 (Provisional)	
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1	Andhra Pradesh	20,809	28	20,953	85	25,964	117
2	Arunachal Pradesh	43	0	37	0	13	1
3	Assam	265	0	810	0	2,318	0
4	Bihar	3,334	11	2,848	14	2,924	31
5	Chhattisgarh	3,533	60	4,109	52	4,148	33
6	Goa	620	1	1,189	8	1,025	1
7	Gujarat	5,872	72	6,209	49	7,064	50
8	Haryana	814	4	944	6	977	7
9	Himachal Pradesh	1,587	23	1,465	9	2,105	30
10	Jammu & Kashmir	1,357	0	1,422	1	1,391	1
11	Jharkhand	749	15	788	2	481	2
12	Karnataka	9,730	46	8,084	28	7,507	30
13	Kerala	3,019	12	3,608	13	4,189	11
14	Madhya Pradesh	5,010	113	5,346	96	2,646	39
15	Maharashtra	29,629	67	16,708	35	18,707	32
16	Manipur	118	0	150	0	50	1
17	Meghalaya	405	0	282	2	327	0
18	Mizoram	205	0	278	0	368	0
19	Nagaland	106	0	136	0	245	0
20	Odisha	15,405	120	15,274	147	8,003	98
21	Punjab	1,511	8	918	3	1,421	4
22	Rajasthan	4,929	32	6,720	45	5,810	30
23	Sikkim	242	2	130	0	117	1
24	Tamil Nadu	16,277	44	13,668	38	14,027	50
25	Telangana	13,729	96	2,975	2	3,306	9
26	Tripura	430	1	779	1	813	2
27	Uttarakhand	194	3	128	0	208	2
28	Uttar Pradesh	6,640	118	7,448	128	7,623	73
29	West Bengal	25,481	138	31,072	268	36,229	203
30	A & N Islands	294	0	195	1	208	5
31	Chandigarh	3,089	36	1,294	9	829	14
32	D & N Haveli	609	9	626	7	733	4
33	Daman & Diu	51	0	99	0	130	0
34	Delhi	200	4	263	2	168	1
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	2,147	5	1,695	9	1,957	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,78,433</b>	<b>1068</b>	<b>1,58,650</b>	<b>1060</b>	<b>1,64,031</b>	<b>885</b>