

At present, there is no proposal to set up more IITs in the country.

[English]

Hepatitis-G Virus

2237. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item caption "Killer Virus Hepatitis-G in India" appearing in the "Asian Age" dated December 17, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the killer virus has been found blood borne, if so, the extent to which this virus has spread indicating the number of persons found infected with the virus;

(e) whether any specific section of people, age group, class or vocation have been identified as vulnerable to and carriers of this virus, if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the main causes to which the virus or the spread of it is traced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Government is aware of the news reports regarding Hepatitis-G Virus (HGV) infection in India.

(b) to (f) The transmission of HGV through blood transfusion and by other parenteral routes of exposure, such as through intravenous drug use, have been clearly established. A study conducted by medical scientists in AIIMS, New Delhi reported 2 out of 16 patients with acute and chronic cases of liver failure as positive for the infection. HGV genome was also detected in two patients with *P. falciparum* infection. More detailed studies are necessary to determine the disease dimension in the country.

Rehabilitation of People of Indian Origin in Hong Kong

2238. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to take appropriate action to reinstate the people of Indian origin becoming Stateless in Hong Kong after its transfer to China; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) According to statistics released by the Immigration Department of Hong Kong, the number of persons of Indian origin who are permanent

residents of Hong Kong and who hold British Dependent Territories Citizens (BDTC) or British National Overseas (BN(O)) passports but do not have any other nationality is approximately 3,200.

It has been the consistent position of the Government of India that the British Government has basic responsibility towards BDTC and BN(O) passport holders and that it should take British citizens. The British Government has announced on 4.2.1997 that solely British ethnic minorities residing in Hong Kong could apply for registration as British citizens, giving them right of abode in the United Kingdom, after 30th June, 1997. It is expected that, following this announcement, most Indians holding BDTC and BN(O) passports, but not having any other nationality, would qualify to apply for registration as British citizens.

Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty

2239. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the German Foreign Minister Mr. Klaus Kinkel during his recent visit to India, called upon India to join the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty;

(b) if so, in what precise terms this suggestion was made; and

(c) reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Dr. Kinkel conveyed that it would be desirable if India signed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). However, he appreciated India's position on the Treaty.

(c) External Affairs Minister categorically conveyed to the German Foreign Minister that India would not now or later sign the CTBT and the NPT in their present form. India's stand on the CTBT has been principled and consistent. India believes that the CTBT should be an integral part of a nuclear disarmament process leading to total elimination of nuclear weapons within a timebound framework.

Flood Control

2240. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :
DR. G.R. SARODE :

Will be Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of different flood prone areas in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether any survey has been made to ascertain the causes of floods in these areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the funds allocation made for flood control during the Eighth Plan and Ninth Plan, State-wise;

(e) whether there are increasing demands from various States particularly Orissa to enhance fund allocation for flood control;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the measures undertaken by the Government to control floods in the country particularly Orissa during the Eighth Plan and the projects/programmes finalised for the same in the Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The flood prone area in the country as assessed by the Rashtriya Barh Ayog is 40 million ha. statewise breakup is given in the Statements-I enclosed.

(b) and (c) The various causes of floods are :

- (i) Streams carrying flows in excess of the transporting capacity within their banks.
- (ii) Backing up of waters in tributaries at their outfalls into the main river.
- (iii) Heavy rainfall synchronising with river spills.
- (iv) Ice jams or land slides blocking streams.
- (v) Synchronisation of upland floods with high tides.
- (vi) Typhoons and cyclones.
- (vii) Inadequate drainage to carry away surface water with the desired quickness.

In any given area, the flood may be due to one or more of the above factors.

(d) to (f) The details of funds allocation made for flood control during Eighth Plan and proposed allocation for Ninth Plan (as per Working Group recommendations) statewise is given in the at Statement II enclosed. ninth Plan is yet to be finalised.

The amount of additional allocation sought by different states and the amount sanctioned are given in Statement-III enclosed. No request has been received from Government of Orissa.

(g) Planning, investigation and implementation of flood management works are the responsibility of State Government. Rashtriya Barh Ayog constituted by Government of India has made 207 recommendations on long term and short term measures. These have been sent to the State Government for implementation. The Working Group on Flood Management for 8th plan has identified 25 out of 207 recommendations for implementation during 8th Plan. Government of India has also constituted 5 regional task forces on flood management on 30.9.96 with the participation of senior central and state Government officers to examine the flood problem, review the measures already taken by the State Government and recommend comprehensive short term and long term measures for flood control. Eastern Regional Task Force is examining the flood problem of Orissa. The reports of the Task Forces are likely to be submitted by 31.3.97.

Statement-I

Area Liable to Floods in the Country

(Area in lakh ha.)

S.No.	State	Area liable to floods
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13.9
2.	Assam	31.5
3.	Bihar	42.6
4.	Gujarat	13.9
5.	Haryana	23.5
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2.3
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.8
8.	Karnataka	0.2
9.	Kerala	8.7
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2.6
11.	Maharashtra	2.3
12.	Manipur	0.8
13.	Meghalaya	0.2
14.	Orissa	14.0
15.	Punjab	37.0
16.	Rajasthan	32.6
17.	Tamilnadu	4.5
18.	Tripura	3.3
19.	Uttar Pradesh	73.36
20.	West Bengal	26.5
21.	Delhi	0.5
22.	Pondicherry	0.1

Total 335.16

(Say 34 Million ha.)

Flood pruned area as per data from States for period 1953-78	34 Million ha.
A-rea protected till then (1978)	10 Million ha.
Total :	44 Million ha.

Area flooded due to failure of protection works which might have been added in the reported flooded area (assumed) (-)	4 Million ha.
Total Flood Prone Area in the country	40 Million ha.

Statement-II

S.No.	Name of State/UTs	Approved outlay (Rs. in Crore) for VIII Plan	Proposed outlay (Rs. in Crore) for IX Plan
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	143.54	735.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.71	153.04

1	2	3	4
3.	Assam	86.85	296.49
4.	Bihar	251.71	637.50
5.	Goa	0.90	4.63
6.	Gujarat	10.00	52.60
7.	Haryana	52.00	145.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6.00	12.75
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	40.75	49.09
10.	Karnataka	11.00	136.00
11.	Kerala	65.00	317.27
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8.53	20.00
13.	Maharashtra	1.46	105.41
14.	Manipur	20.00	60.00*
15.	Meghalaya	8.54	25.62*
16.	Mizoram	0.25	0.75*
17.	Nagaland	1.50	5.00
18.	Orissa	42.05	339.50
19.	Punjab	125.00	125.87
20.	Rajasthan	25.30	75.90
21.	Sikkim	0.00	200.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	30.00	30.00
23.	Tripura	8.00	24.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	70.00	498.75
25.	West Bengal	280.00	500.00
	Total of States	1,293.09	4550.17
26.	A&N Islands	0.05	0.15*
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	Nil
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.02	Nil
29.	Daman & Diu	1.17	5.70
30.	Delhi	40.00	200.00
31.	Lakshadweep	2.60	10.00
32.	Pondicherry	4.44	42.47
	Total U.Ts	48.28	258.32
	Grand Total	1,341.37	4808.49

* Proposed outlays have been taken as three times the Eighth Plan approved outlays as the State did not furnish the details

Statement-III

S.No.	Name of State	Amount Requested	Amount Sanctioned
		(Rs. in crore)	
1.	Assam	6.95	3.95
2.	Bihar	1.28	1.28
3.	Kerala	28.53	3.00
4.	Madhya Pradesh	1.00	1.00
5.	Meghalaya	10.50	10.50
6.	West Bengal	1.63	1.63

Cell for North-Eastern Education Schemes

2241. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a cell to scam North-Eastern States education scheme was set up;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said cell has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (e) There is no such Cell to scam educational schemes in the North Eastern States. A Cell has, however, been set up under the Minister of State for Education to monitor the progress of schemes comparing the four Departments, Education, Culture, Youth Affairs & Sports and Women & Child Development in the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Educational Cess

2242. SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to impose Educational Cess;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cess is likely to be shared with the State Governments also; and

(d) if so, the percentage thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (d) The Committee of State Education Ministers constituted by this Department to consider implications of the proposal to make elementary education a Fundamental Right has inter alia recommended that State Governments should consider measures which will enable local bodies in urban and rural areas to raise revenues for improvement of facilities in schools. The Committee's report mentions that States should consider the proposal to levy an educational cess in this regard. It is thus for the State Governments to take appropriate action in this regard.