

(d) if so, the reasons for releasing the results of this study after two months ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (d) A comprehensive range of scientific medical research investigation of the gas affected victims in Bhopal was undertaken by the I.C.M.R. in collaboration with the State Health Department, the Gandhi Medical College and the Department of Forensic Medicine of the Medico-Legal Institute of Bhopal. Following preliminary investigations, it was decided that monitoring of the urinary thiocyanates values would be a good index of the normal detoxification mechanism of the body. Hence tests were initiated by one of the ICMR teams in Bhopal in late December, the methodology was double checked in appropriate laboratories in Delhi from the first Week of January onwards. The tests established that there were elevated levels of urinary thiocyanate. Following this it was decided to carry out a study with the use of Sodium Thiosulphate (commonly known as HYPO and Glucose).

Although this drug was known to be harmless and was being used in a limited way in Bhopal the scientific basis of its efficacy was established only after the conclusion of I.C.M.R. Study which demonstrated that thiosulphate administration increases the excretion of urinary thiocyanate. The increased levels of thiocyanate in urine are indicative of clearance of cyanate pool from the bodies of persons exposed to the gas in Bhopal. Once a scientific basis of the efficacy of Sodium Thiosulphate was established, the information was released for wider use on 31.1.1985 and 12.2.1985. The use of Sodium Thiosulphate was also recommended to the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

It is not yet certain in Whether HYPO is specific antidote for MIC. This matter is under investigation. However, according to results obtained so far HYPO neutralises the breakdown products of MIC or other toxic substances generated in the body.

Tripura Objects to Dhaka Dam

1386. **SHRI AJOY BISWAS :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Times of India dated 6 March, 1985 under the Caption Tripura objects to Dhaka Dams;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of India have taken up the matter with the Government of Bangladesh.

Review about Occurance and Impact of Communicable Diseases

1387. **SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN :**

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

(a) whether his Ministry has made any review about the occurrence and impact of some communicable diseases other than Malaria and Tuberculosis in the country ;

(b) if so, what are those communicable diseases which caused concern in different parts of the country in last three years;

(c) whether some such diseases are on the fast expanding in the country;

(d) if so, the efforts made to initiate control measures of those communicable diseases; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes.

(b) A statement showing the number of cases affected by diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, measles, polio myelitis, enteric fever, and the Guinea-worm diseases for the last 3 years is enclosed.

(c) to (e) (i) Expanded Programme for immunisation has been taken up in a wider scale against Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis and typhoid fever by making immunisation services available to all eligible children and pregnant women by 1990. Health education measures are being intensified for creating public awareness.

(ii) The Guineaworm Eradication Programme has been launched to eliminate the disease. The main feature of the Programme are :

- (a) Active case searches in each of the villages, twice in a year in every affected district of the country.
- (b) Provision of safe water supply through the Central Public Health Environmental Engineering Organisation and State Public Health Environmental Engineering Organisations in the States.
- (c) Intensive health education of the community through distribution of pamphlets, posters, showing of cinema slides and films, writing of wall slogans, group discussions, Radio talk with the objective of promoting personal prophylaxis in the community as well as reducing transmission potential.
- (d) Treatment of unsafe water sources with temephos 50% EC during the transmission season.
- (e) Training of all District level Health and Engineering officers at the NICD and Medical Officers of PHCs. and paramedical staff in the States.

(f) Treatment of patients and use of occlusive bandaging to prevent contact of patient with the step well water.

Statement

Number of Cases during the last 3 years

Name of Disease	No. of cases during the years.		
	1982	1983	1984
Diphtheria	15144	11697	10288
Whooping Cough	277848	210387	122788
Tetanus	39553	32991	21662
Measles	146256	128043	113954
Poliomyelitis	21469	21290	14672
Enteric Fever	408992	339236	196232
Guineaworm	*42926	*44819	*40443

*These cases are in 79 districts of six States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

Modernisation of Power Projects

1388. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some State Governments have sent proposal to the Central Electricity Authority for the modernisation of some power projects ;

(b) if so, the number of such proposals received by Central Electricity Authority in 1984-85;

(c) the name of the States from which such proposals have come; and

(d) the details of the prospects and costs of each of those projects ?

MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d). A statement containing the information is attached.