

(c) An amount of about Rs. 1.7 crores was paid to families of the deceased and to those injured in accidents which took place in 1987.

(d) Accidents occur for a variety of causes or their combination. Many occurred due to failure of some railway staff, due to negligence of road users at level crossings, failure of rolling stock and permanent way equipment, sabotage and incidental factors like falling of boulders, trees, etc., on track.

(e) some of the important safety measures taken to prevent accidents are:-

- (i) Intensification of field inspections and counselling of staff;
- (ii) Identification of accident-prone areas by Safety Teams and initiating remedial measures.
- (iii) Introduction of modern technological aids like ultrasonic testing of rails and axles, provision of track circuiting, axle-counters, auxiliary warning system, etc.,
- (iv) Programmed rehabilitation of rolling stock, track, signal gears, bridges and other assets.
- (v) Improvement in quality of staff training.
- (vi) Intensification of Safety Campaigns.

[English]

Incidence of Meningitis

479. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether dreaded disease of menin-

gitis is largely responsible for a large number of deaths of teenage children;

(b) if so, whether the incidence of the disease is more during winter and spring;

(c) whether Government are closely monitoring the situation for necessary action; and

(d) whether the incidence of disease is relatively higher in Delhi, Maharashtra, Bihar and West Bengal vis-a-vis other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) Meningitis is not a leading cause of deaths of teenage children. However, deaths due to meningitis is comparatively higher in younger age groups.

(b) Outbreaks of Meningitis occur more frequently in the dry and cold months of the year.

(c) The Government is taking appropriate measures to monitor and control of the disease by detecting the cases of Meningitis and treating them with proper antibiotics such as penicillin/Chloromphenicol etc. to reduce mortality. The Medical Officers in School Health Programme are also taking special care in detecting cases in school children. The close contacts of the confirmed cases are being treated with demoprophylactic agent i.e. Sulphadiazine. Antibiotics are also advocated for carriers to eradicate the carrier state. Mass chemoprophylaxis is recommended for close and medically supervised communities and immunisation with Meningococcal vaccine is advisable for high risk groups in the event to outbreaks.

(d) Yes. The available data show that the States of Maharashtra, Bihar and West Bengal and the UT of Delhi recorded higher

number of cases compared to other States.

Criminal Proceedings against Spurious Drug Manufacturers in Delhi

480. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any criminal proceedings for manufacture of sub-standard drugs have been initiated against any drug manufac-

turer of Delhi during the last two years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). During the years 1986 and 1987 Drugs Control Organisation, Delhi Administration Delhi has launched prosecutions in the court against 4 persons/firms of Delhi for manufacture of Sub-standard drugs. The details are as given below:

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of Person/Firm</i>	<i>Details</i>
1.	M/s Mek Pharma, A-10/15, Jhilmil Industrial Areas, Delhi.	For manufacturing spurious/ sub-standard Analgin Tablets, Sulphaguanidine Tablets and Mandrex Tablets.
2.	M/s Vijay Kumar Goel XIV/257, Prakash Gali, Teliwara, Delhi	For manufacturing without licence spurious/sub- standard Iodex.
3.	Jai Narain Johri, 9564, Library Road, Azad Market, Delhi.	For manufacturing without licence spurious/sub- standard Boroline.
4.	amesh Kumar, 100 Bharat Nagar Delhi.	For manufacturing without licence spurious/sub- standard Boroline.

Classical Dances in University Courses

481. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether classical dances have not been included in the University courses despite the fact that Indian dance is appreciated all over the world; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAH): (a) No, Sir. Courses in classical dances are offered by a number of Universities. For example, the M.S. University of Baroda, Kurukshetra University, Bangalore