

Victims of Epidemics

13. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people in Delhi who were the victims of cholera, gastro-enteritis and other epidemics, during the current year, separately.

(b) how many of them died due to each of them; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to prevent the spread of diseases in an epidemic form in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). According to the information compiled in the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence, the number of cases/deaths due to cholera, gastro-enteritis and other diseases in Delhi during the current year is as under:-

Disease	1988 (Provisional)	
	Cases	Deaths
Viral hepatitis	3334	103 (7/88)
Polio myelitis	1420	Not reported
Cholera	1688	8 (15-10-1988)
Gastro Enteritis	84855	787 (9/88)
Enteric fever	4302	9 (7/88)
Meningitis	2027	407 (24-9-88)

(c) The steps taken to prevent outbreak of these diseases include supply of safe drinking water; safe disposal of human excreta, improvement of environmental sanitation, personal and food hygiene, chlorination of unsafe drinking water, anti-cholera and typhoid inoculations to high risk groups in

affected areas, strengthening of health education through mass-media such as TV, Radio, Posters Pamphlets etc. Specific treatment is being provided for Meningococcal Meningitis cases with injectible Penicillin etc. and contacts are being treated with chemo-prophylaxis with sulpha drugs.

[Translation]

News Item Captioned "Phir Kahar Dha Sakta Hai Yeh Bukhar"

14. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in "Jansatta" dated 8 October, 1988 under the caption "Phir Kahar Dha Sakta Hai Yeh Bukhar";

(b) if so, whether Government have ascertained the causes of the said fever;

(c) whether the medicines for treatment of the said fever could not be developed so far; and

(d) if so, the measures being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes. The Government has seen the news item appeared in Jansatta dated 8th October, 1988.

(b) and (c). This fever is suspected to be of viral in origin and clinically resembles dengue fever. There is no chemotherapy for any viral infection including dengue.

(d) Symptomatic treatment and other supportive therapy are being provided to the patients. Other preventive measures include residual insecticidal spray and anti-larval measures.