

Preventive Measures to Control Guinea Worm Disease in Madhya Pradesh

5541. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the spread of guinea worm disease has created an alarming situation in about 26 out of 45 districts of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to help the State Government's preventive measures against the disease ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) and (b) During 1983, 7,000 cases of Guinea worm have been reported by the Government of Madhya Pradesh. 20 districts out of 45 were affected of this disease. The Guineaworm Eradication Programme has been launched in the seven endemic States including Madhya Pradesh to eradicate this disease. The following specific activities have been intensified under the Programme in the endemic States including Madhya Pradesh :

(1) Priority for provision of safe drinking water to those guineaworm affected villages without any source.

(2) Promotion of personal prophylaxis by education of the communities through the available media.

(3) Prevention of contamination of water sources.

(4) Periodic chemical treatment of unsafe water sources.

(5) Detection of cases through active searches twice a year.

(6) Occlusive bandage of ulcers of patients.

Treatment of Regional Language Books in Sixth World Book Fair

5542. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the regional language books got step motherly treatment, at the Sixth World Book Fair, held recently at New Delhi from the National Book Trust (NBT) the organisers of the fair;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the facts in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) No, Sir. The regional language books were adequately represented at the Sixth World Book Fair held recently in New Delhi.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Apart from the books in regional languages displayed by Indian publishers and booksellers, the National Book Trust had put up a National Book Exhibition which presented the growth of Indian publishing since January 1981. This exhibition displayed 5003 books published in Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu. Indian language publishers were given prominent place for display and sale of their books.

Roof covering of Railway Platforms

5543. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) how many railway platforms are at present covered by roof;

(b) how many railway platforms are not so covered;

(c) whether there is any comprehensive scheme to cover all platform by roof ; and

(d) if so, detail thereof and the action taken in that direction ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY) : (a) and (b) Sir, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) and (d) Works for provision of passenger amenities such as platform covers are planned on a programmed basis keeping in view the availability of funds, comparative needs of various stations and the need of provision of other passenger amenities such as waiting halls, drinking water, benches, lavatories, foot-over-bridges, booking offices etc., at these stations.