

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has given a reply that tourists are being discouraged but the fact is that the tourists are going there. Temporary resorts are being made for them. Small shops are also being opened there. The area is being polluted due to influx of tourists there. I would like to know that how you are stopping the tourists and the second thing is that if no industrialist has offered his services or money for this purpose then whether the hon. Minister, who himself is a resourceful person, will take help of the industrialists and inspire them to invest money.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, the Central Government has discussed this matter with the State Government. The hon'ble member is right that tourists are still going there and it is a fact that they are polluting the area. But the State Government has not made any scheme to discourage them or encourage them upto now. Time and again, it has been said that some tents may be pitched there and sign-boards should be fixed there to create awareness among the tourists. As far as the question of big business houses taking part in this is concerned the Government has not received any such proposal, but as I was saying in reply to the last question, the Himalayan Mountaineering Trust and the Indian Mountaineering Federation have talked to big business houses for the purpose of making a scheme in this regard. If they want any help from us, we will certainly talk with the big business houses and try to help these non-Governmental Organizations.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kuppuswamy We are giving an opportunity to Kanyakumari to extent help in regard to Gangotri.

[English]

SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY: I would like to know whether the Government of India have received any proposal from the Tamil Nadu Government in order to bring a big scheme to control the pollution at Tripura

caused by the Dyeing and Bleaching factories.

I would also like to know whether the Government of India received any proposal from the Tamil Nadu Government to bring a major scheme in order to control the pollution from the ACC Cement Factory, Coimbatore by which the nearest agriculture lands are affected.

MR. SPEAKER: This is about Gangotri!

SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY: The hon. Minister should reply. This is very very important.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not even about the entire Ganga River. It is about Gangotri only!

SHRI KAMAL NATH: The hon. Member has moved from Gangotri to Tamil Nadu!

MR. SPEAKER: I thought you are moving from Kanya Kumari to Gangotri!

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Never thereless, under the National River Action Plan, which is being propose, the Central Pollution Control Board has identified major stretches of rivers all over the country. We all know, the Ganga Action Plan was only for Ganga and for major tributaries of the Ganga. But the new Plan which is being made, the National River Action Plan, will cover major polluted areas of rivers all over the country. Should the hon. Member desire to bring any specific polluted stretch to my notice, I shall be happy to receive the same and we shall consider it.

Filaria Cases

*290. **DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Microfilaria carriers and Chronic Filaria cases reported in the country during 1991, State-wise;

(b) the funds allocated for the National Filaria Control Programme during 1992-93; and

(c) whether the funds allocated are adequate for treating all the breeding places by chemicals and bio-environmental meth-

ods?
 THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARES (SHRIMATI D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The number of Micro-filaria carriers and chronic filaria cases as reported by the State/UT Governments during the calendar year 1991 is annexes.

(b) and (c). No separate allocation of funds has been made in the Annual Plan 1992-93 for the Filaria Control programme. Filaria control activities would be undertaken as a part of the National Malaria Eradication Programme with effect from 1st April, 1992.

ANNEXURE

STATEWISE PARASITOLOGICAL DATA FOR THE YEAR 1991.

Sl. No.	Name of the States/ Union Territories	Number Examined	No + Ve for mf.	No. + Ve for Disease
1.	Andhra Pradesh	31515	8447	3953
2.	Assam	529	6	2
3.	Bihar	32897	234	704
4.	Goa	Information awaited		
5.	Gujarat	14376	77	11
6.	Karnataka	11981	186	144
7.	Kerala	17214	318	299
8.	Madhya Pradesh	38089	134	187
9.	Maharashtra	47904	14039	3126
10.	Orissa	1392	40	181
11.	Tamil Nadu	143571	1188	604
12.	Uttar Pradesh	51817	1002	1884

Sl. No.	Name of the States/ Union Territories	Number Examined	No + Ve for mf.	No. + Ve for Disease
13.	West Bengal	2740	179	464
14.	Pondicherry	7730	112	48
15.	A & N Islands	12579	42	36
16.	Daman & Diu		No Data	
17.	Lakshadweep		Information awaited	
Grand Total:—		4,14,334	19404	11643

*Information Provisional Subject to change based on report received upto 12.3.92.

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: As per the statement given by the hon. Minister, nearly 8 per cent of the cases examined are either microfilaria carriers or chronic micro-filaria cases. It really shows an alarming figure for our country. So, it needs a separate mission to counter it. But the hon. Minister says in his annual budgetary plan for 1992-93 that no separate fund allocation has been made and filarial control programme will be undertaken as a part of the National Malarial Eradication Programme.

Will the hon. Minister explain why he condones no separate allocation is required for filarial control programme?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIM. L. FOTEDAR): The hon. Member is correct in saying that we have taken it as a part of the anti-malaria programme. That does not mean that we have given it up. But its national character is reduced to the extent that there should not be a separate thing like anti-malaria programme. It should be part the anti-malaria programme. I think it does not make any difference whether we make it a part of the

anti-malaria programme or have a separate organisation.

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Only in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, the filaria cases are high. I would like to know the reasons thereof and whether the Government propose to take special measures to tackle this higher incidence of filaria in these States.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: So far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, this disease has come down very drastically, thanks to the efforts to of the State Government. The State Government has taken initiative. Some preventive measure also have been taken. Similarly, other State Government also have to take the similar, initiative so that the disease is controlled. This, to some extent, is preventable because Larvicide, is one of the chemicals that has to be sprayed at an appropriate time. The people also have to take some appropriate measures so that this disease does not spread.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister and would like to

request him that Filaria is so much widespread in the eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh that perhaps no village is untouched. This disease is present there for a long time and the menace has not lessened. The Kalazar. Malaria and Filaria have struck deep in the Terai region of Uttar Pradesh. You had promised that you would go to that area and make a tour but you have not fulfilled your promise. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you that in view of the intensity of this widespread disease in this region would you do something by way of giving more from your side as Central help to the State Government and try to make free that region from diseases like filaria.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: I can assure the hon. Member that whenever you want I shall be ready to undertake a tour of that area.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Hon. Sir, I have been making a request for a long time, but you never gone there till today though you had made a promise to the effect.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: As far as control on Filaria is concerned, for this the total commitment of political will of the State Government is necessary. I understand that the Government of that State is giving quite a lot of attention towards this. As it is centrally sponsored scheme. Therefore, we will provide help in on 50-50 percent basis under this scheme. I assure you that we shall continue it is a centrally sponsored scheme.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Hon. Sir, it is for everyone. In the eastern region, this disease has spread in a very dreadful way. What help you will provide to stop it? I would like to know from you whether you will increase the grant in aid to more than 50 per cent.

[English]

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: As per the statement of the hon. Minister, it has been stated that Filaria control activities would be

undertaken as a part of the National Malaria Eradication programme with effect from 1st April 1992. I feel this is a sort of a bureaucratic reply. The point is that the ICMR has done a detailed survey in the country about the people who are exposed to Filaria the people who can be the carriers of Filaria, people who can suffer from the Chronic Filarial Disease. Based on that survey, 5 per cent of the population is exposed to Filaria and out of the 25 per cent, up to 10 per cent of the people are carriers of the Filarial disease. So, 25 million people in our country are the carriers of the Filarial Disease. The facts are gigantic. Chronic Filaria cases are increasing. Further, mosquitoes are prevalent in our country. The Quils mosquito and the Idis mosquito are found in Kerala. Therefore, the Chronic Filaria cases are increasing. How is the Minister telling that without a National Filaria Eradication Programme he is going to curb the problem of Malaria and Filariasis in our country? In the 1992-93 budget provision, money has been truncated. How is he going to curb this problem? The mosquitoes are resistant to the spraying of chemicals. The spraying is required for the general variety.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: There is a difference between Malaria and Filaria. The logistics are quite different. The hon. Member has quoted some figures. He said 25 million people are carriers of Filaria. Though some of the figures are available with me - I have gone through the figures - I will frankly and candidly share with this august House that I am myself not convinced how this survey had been conducted. I have ordered the officers to find out actually what is the factorial position in the country about this disease. Till then I will not be able to share the information with this House unless I am personally convinced that the figures given to me are hundred percent correct according to the evaluation by the Department.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Sir, as per the Minister's statement, Filaria is a major public health problem whereas Ma-

alaria and Encephalitis are also the major public health problems till today. The progress of these diseases is static. And it is felt that majority of the victims are mainly from the poorest of the poor sections of the society. There is a Malaria Control Programme which is a national programme to eradicate malaria and for eradicating filaria, there is a Vector Control Programme. The Government is unsung DDT as the main drug... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You ask the question. What is your question?

(*Interruptions*)

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Now mosquitos have developed resistance to DDT in controlling the vector. Also, it causes the environmental problem. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask the question. This information is already available with all of us.

(*Interruptions*)

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: In view of the increase in the resistance, part (a) of my supplementary to the Minister is whether the Government is going to change its Vector Control Programme. My suggestion is to use Malathion in place of DDT. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I gave you the opportunity. But you are not using it properly.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Part (b) of my supplementary is, whether the Government is ready to provide the mosquito nets at a subsidised rates to the poorer sections of the society and whether the Government is going to increase the Budget allocation for that this year. There is a radical curtailment of nearly two crores of rupees in this Anti-Malaria and Filaria Control Programme. I would like to know whether the Government is going to combat this major public health problem by increasing the Budget alloca-

tions or not. This is my supplementary question.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: I can tell the hon. Member that it is not the question of increase or decrease. We have kept about Rs. 50 crores in this Malaria Control Programme during the current year. So far as the Filaria Programme is concerned, for the people also have to take the initiative. It is not the question of the poor and the rich. It is a question of the people living in that environment so that they take sufficient precaution to see that this mosquito does not bite them. Perhaps, the hon. Member himself is a medical scientist and he knows that this mosquito bites during time and place. It has to be taken for clinical purpose during night time. I would request the hon. Member that he must approach the State Government to provide mosquito nets for the poor and the needy. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, what is expected from a Government which is not able to will mosquitoes even!

[*English*]

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: You ask the hon. Member.

Pollution Around Coal Mines

*291. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation regarding pollution and environmental degradation in and around coal mines in West Bengal and other State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and