

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE : There is anti-tick cream which is applied on arms and Legs. Then, one has to wear proper clothing and footwear while entering the forest. The second question asked by the hon. member is about vaccine. Effective vaccine of two does would be available by 1990 in Karnataka State. It would be manufactured again in Shimoga District of Karnataka. This particular money disease occurs mainly in males who enter the forest illegal, for cutting wood or pasture. The maximum cases were in 1983-84 because of deforestation for cashewnut plantation. No case has occurred periodically every 3-4 years. We will definitely look into whatever suggestion has been by the hon. member.

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Incentives to Doctors to Serve in Rural Areas

*225. **CH. RAM PARKASH :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the existing monetary and other incentives to doctors have proved effective to induce them to serve in rural areas;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) if not, what further incentives are contemplated to provide sufficient attraction to doctors to serve in rural areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b) While the existing monetary and other incentives to doctors have resulted in a progressive improvement in the availability of medical doctors for service in rural areas, there still remains an overall shortage as new Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres are being established.

According to reports received from States and Union Territories, there were 3,229 vacancies against the total sanctioned strength of 24,052 posts in rural areas in September, 1987.

(c) Apart from the special grants provided by the Eighth Finance Commission to the States for improving the availability of medical doctors for service in rural areas, the Ministry has decided to approach the Ninth Finance Commission for providing more allocation to States for this purpose. State Governments have also been advised to monitor the progress and to give due weightage for rural service while considering applications for higher studies and for career advancement. The Central Council of Health and Family Welfare which includes State Health Ministers as members met recently and recommended to State Governments a course of action which includes grant of a rural allowance, free residential accommodation, a system of graded incentives for compensating doctors for rural service and measures for ensuring professional satisfaction to encourage doctors to serve in rural areas.

[Translation]

Killing of Wild Animals in Rajasthan

*226. **SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL :** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether incidents of killing of wild animals in Rajasthan have been increasing;

(b) if so, whether the tigers in Alwar and Churu Rajasthan were shot dead in the recent past; and

(c) if so, the difficulties being faced in catching these tigers and the measures proposed to be taken to prevent their killing ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Though there is no report of tigers having been killed in Alwar and Churu

districts, a leopard has reportedly been killed in each of these two districts.

(c) A statement is given below.

Statement

The leopards are sometimes killed before the wildlife staff equipped with tranquilisation guns or equipment for capture can reach the spot. Tranquilisation guns and the expertise to handle them is also not always available close at hand. Sometimes the leopards cannot be tranquilised or trapped and have to be destroyed if they pose a threat to human life.

The measures proposed are :

- (i) better communication facilities so that the wildlife staff can be summoned quicker;
- (ii) acquisition of tranquilisation equipment; and
- (iii) imparting of training in tranquilisation and capture techniques.

[English]

Modernisation Scheme of Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited

*227. SHRI R.P. DAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received for modernisation and increasing the rated capacity of Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme envisages an investment of Rs. 42.8 crores with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 15.8 crores, for modernisation and expansion of the ship building and ship repair facilities at the Nazirganj Unit of the Company.

Bibinagar-Nadikudi Railway Line

*228. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the original plan for the completion of Bibinagar-Nadikudi railway line including the estimated cost thereof;

(b) whether the construction work of this line is far behind the schedule;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof;

(d) the estimated expenditure incurred so far on this line; and

(e) whether Government propose to take any steps for the completion of this line within the scheduled programme and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c) and (e) Construction of this new line was approved in 1974-75 at an estimated cost of Rs. 14.97 crores and progressed in phase according to availability of resources. The 1st phase from Bibinagar to Nalgonda was commissioned for traffic in March, 1981 and the whole line has been completed in February, 1988.

(d) Rs. 46 crore.

International Conference on Environment

*233. SHRI P.M. SYEED : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the decision has been taken to hold an international conference on environmental impact assessment this year by the Pollution Control Research Institute, Hardwar;

(b) if so, the names of other international organisations to be invited for participation;

(c) the various aspects to be covered in the conference; and