

Sr. No.	States	No. of approved blood banks
24.	Rajasthan	50
25.	Sikkim	1
26.	Tamilnadu	175
27.	Tripura	5
28.	U.P.	131
29.	W. Bengal	83
TOTAL		1549

Common Seniority for Teaching Sub Cadres of CHS

3452. MISS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that common seniority is not prepared for teaching specialists sub-cadre of Central Health Service (CHS);

(b) whether it is not mandatory/obligatory to prepare an Annual Seniority List in all the service cadres of Government of India; and

(c) the reasons why the same is not being done for Teaching Specialists' Sub-Cadre of C.H.S.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c) The seniority of members of the Central Health Service is determined in accordance with the provisions of Rule 9 of the Central Health Service Rules, 1996. These rules do not provide for preparation of seniority list of officers annually.

Eradication of Polio

3453. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed any target date for eradication of Polio from the country?

(b) if so, the details thereof;

[25 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) whether assistance of any external agency has been sought for eradication of polio; and

(d) what other steps are being taken to reach every pocket in States to eradicate polio?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) The Government has accepted WHO's global programme for achieving zero incidence of Polio by the winter of 2000-2001.

(c) Routine immunization is being funded from the domestic budget. The cost of the Pulse Polio Immunisation is met out of assistance from the external donor agencies and IDA assistance from the World Bank.

(d) In addition to administration of polio vaccination to children as a part of the Routine Immunization Programme, Government is conducting the intensified Pulse Polio Programme all over the country to cover all children below 5 years of age. The strategy for the current year i.e. 2000-2001 is to conduct two National Immunization Days (NIDs) in the entire country in December, 2000 and January, 2001. The NIDs will be preceded by two Sub National Immunization Days (SNIDs) — one in November, 2000 covering the States of Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and another in the month of September, 2000 in the 4 States of Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar and Delhi. The strategy also calls for an intensified house to house search and vaccination of missed children following the day of booth immunization in all the States conducting SNIDs. In the States reporting only one or two polio cases, intensified mop up vaccination programme is being taken up during the current year.

Arbitrary Procurement of Medicines

3454. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that arbitrary procurement of medicines, without ascertaining the requirement from the user dispensaries by the Addl. Director, Central Government Health Scheme and Government Medical Store Department, resulted in expiry of medicines to the tune of Rs. 0.5 crores; and