

NEWS & VIEWS

Leprosy :

Prevalence of leprosy in the State varies from 0.50 per milli to 6.13 per milli. The affected districts having endemic pockets are Surat, Baroda, Dangs, Junagadh and Panchmahals. Total number of estimated cases is 31,860. For detection and treatment of cases 70 Survey Education and Treatment (S. E. T.) Units, each serving a population of about 20 thousand have been established. Besides the S. E. T. Units, 3 Leprosy Control Units each serving a population of 70,000 to 80,000 also function at Bulsar, Rajpipla, and Porbander. There are in all 5 Leprosy Hospitals in the State, 3 run by Government at Ahmedabad (150 beds), Baroda (75 beds) and Junagadh (70 beds) and 2 run by Voluntary Organisations at Surat (200 beds) and Bhavnagar (250 beds). The total bed strength is 745.

(Reference: Gujarat 1968 pp. 300, 301, prepared by The Research and Reference Section, Directorate of Information, Government of Gujarat, Sachivalaya, Ahmedabad-15.)

VD still major scourge

Express News Service

New Delhi, June 3-1970

Venereal diseases are still a big problem in India. In prevalence, they rank high among communicable diseases. "The reservoir of infection has not diminished significantly" despite the plans, the Union Health Ministry feels.

The Ministry feels that the loss of manpower to industry and agriculture due to these diseases is "considerable," though it cannot be exactly calculated,

Till the end of November, 235,848 VD cases were treated last year in 142 clinics set up with Central assistance.

The actual number of people suffering from VD in India is obviously much higher - not all cases are always reported, and there are 260 VD clinics in the country.

PROGRAMME

After reviewing the last three Plans, the Ministry has come to the conclusion that "there is still a great need for appreciation of the problem in its various aspects, and room for considerable expansion of activities."

The Venereal Diseases Control Programme will be implemented as a Centrally-sponsored scheme in the Fourth Plan.

The scheme has four major aims: the establishment of 50 VD clinics; the establishment of regional central reference laboratories; free supply of vital drugs to the States as before.

Facilities for testing the blood of all pregnant women attending maternity child health centres and "natal clinics."

More than Rs 1 crore will be spent on the programme.

Venereal Diseases

In the quarter ended March, 31 1969 in England and Wales there were 932 first attendances for syphilis, compared with 818 attendances in the corresponding quarter ending March, 1968. The increase in new cases of gonorrhoea over the same period was from 9,151 in 1968 to 10,677 in 1969 including seven new cases of ophthalmia neonatorum in each. Not only did new attendances for non-gonococcal urethritis increase in the first quarter of 1969 from 7,571 recorded over the similar period in 1968 to 8,554, but trichomonal infestations rose from 2,883 to 3,280 whilst, conditions requiring no treatment within the centre increased from 11,632 to 14,140.

—The Practitioner, July, 1970.

Statistics from W.H.O. about India

The incidence of malaria has fallen by over 99% during the past 15 years, and cases of smallpox have dropped, for only 4,006 deaths were reported in 1969. With life expectation increasing from 32 to 54 years, and an annual population growth rate of 2.5% family planning programme has been increased. Of 8,000 doctors graduating annually from 94 medical colleges, about 80% are located in towns which comprise only 20% of the total population.

—The Practitioner, July, 1970.

CORONET PRODUCTS of Value to Dermato-Venereologists

- (1) Injections:
Coplex 12, and Trivitin
- (2) Capsules:
Cocyclin, and Multin (Vitamin)
- (3) Tablets:
Cosolon (Prednisolone)
- (4) Liquid:
ton (Malt tonic)

Cocyclin, C-Cal-D, Co-vitamin

CORONET PHARMACEUTICALS

Office: Narsi Natha Street, Bombay 9.

Factory: Vakola, Santa Cruz, Bombay 55.