

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3855
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2000
MAHAMARI
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

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

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned `Madhya Pradesh ke Adivsasi Kshetron Mein Mahamari ka Prakop` published in `Hindustan`, New Delhi dated September 25, 2000 where in it has been stated that tribal dominated areas of Madhya Pradesh are in the grip of various serious diseases;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to save the tribals from these serious diseases?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. An officer from National Institute of Communicable Diseases visited district Betul, M.P. from 6th to 9th September, 2000. Subsequently a central team of experts comprising Joint Secretary, Women and Child Development, Dy. Commissioner (Child Health) and Sr. Regional Director, Regional Health Office, Bhopal and a representative from National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi visited Betul district from 9th to 12th October, 2000 to investigate fever related deaths. A Team comprising Officers from the Dte. of NAMP and Regional Office for Health & Family Welfare, Bhopal also visited the affected areas of the district from 2nd to 7th November, 2000 for an on the spot assessment of the malaria situation. The Teams which visited the affected areas took stock of the situation and suggested appropriate containment measures.

In addition to the World bank assisted Enhanced Malaria Control Project currently in operation in 25 tribal predominant malaria hard core district in M.P, various anti-malaria activities have also been intensified. The steps taken by the Govt. to save the tribals from such serious diseases inter-alia include intensification of surveillance to detect cases early, carrying out residual insecticide spray especially in problematic focal areas for vector control and making available adequate anti-malarials like Chloroquine, Primaquine etc. and Insecticides to the affected areas.