

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6374

ANSWERED ON:08.05.2002

ANTI FILARIA MEDICINES

BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB;GADDE RAMAMOCHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI;NANDIPAKU VENKATASWAMY

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

- (a) whether anti-filaria campaign was organized recently in Orissa with the help of WHO;
- (b) whether number of deaths had occurred in Orissa and some other States after consuming anti-filaria medicines;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) Mass Drug Administration with Di-Ethyl Carbamazine (DEC) and Albendazole was organized by the Orissa State in January, 2002 in four districts of the State namely Puri, Khurda, Balasore and Ganjam.

(b) No, Sir. DEC is being used in the country under National Filaria Control Programme (NFCP) since long for the treatment of micro-filaria carriers as well as acute and chronic filaria patients. Albendazole is also used as an helminthic drug all over the world. No deaths have been reported due to intake of DEC or Albendazole.

(c) & (d) Does not arise.