

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1502
ANSWERED ON:29.10.2008
ERADICATION OF KALA AZAR
Mahto Shri Tek Lal;Nayak Shri Ananta

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set any target to eliminate Kala Azar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the year by which this disease is likely to be eliminated; and
- (c) the State-wise details of the spread of Kala Azar alongwith the progress achieved in containing the same?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

- (a) & (b) Yes, Sir.National Health Policy Document (2002) envisages the Kala-azar elimination by the year 2010.
- (c) The State-wise details are given in Annexure.The various steps to contain the spread of Kala-azar taken by the Government of India are as under:
 - (i) Expansion of New Tools i.e. rapid diagnostic kit & oral drug miltefosine to increase the compliance of treatment due to quick diagnosis.
 - (ii) Free diet to patient and one attendant & incentive to patient @Rs. 50/- per day towards loss of wages during treatment in Bihar.
 - (iii) Incentive to Kala-azar activist for referring a case and ensuring complete treatment.
 - (iv) Intensifying kala-azar case search through kala-azar fortnight
 - (v) Focused intervention specially indoor residual spraying (IRS) under strict supervision & monitoring
 - (vi) Introduction of patient coding scheme
 - (vii) Construction of pucca houses for poor people which are the worst affected, in collaboration with Ministry of Rural Development.

More cases of Kala-azar in Bihar have been detected and treated. The increase in number of Kala-azar cases in Bihar has been due to the introduction of several incentives as mentioned above resulting in a large number of cases being drawn towards Government Health facilities from private sector. There is reduction in the number of Kala-azar cases in the States of West Bengal, Jharkhand and U.P.