

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1211
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2012
DEATH OF CHILDREN DUE TO MYSTERIOUS DISEASE
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the hundreds of children have died due to mysterious disease in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has sent any expert team to these places to diagnose this disease;
- (d) if so, the details of the report submitted by the experts; and
- (e) the details of assistance provided to the said States and other remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a) & (b): 147 deaths in Uttar Pradesh and 275 deaths in Bihar have been reported, mostly in children, due to Japanese Encephalitis (JE)/ Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) during 2012 (till 9th Aug.).

(c) & (d): Multi-disciplinary teams consisting of experts in epidemiology, entomology, microbiology and pediatrics were sent from the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to Muzaffarpur and Gaya districts in Bihar in June 2012. The teams interacted with the local authorities and health care providers and emphasized early transport of cases from villages to hospitals, and improved bed -side care of admitted patients.

(e): An amount of Rs. 25 crore (approx.) has been released/ allocated to different States for prevention and control of JE/AES under National Vector-Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) during the last three years and current year.

Besides, an amount of Rs. 60 crore (approx.) has been sanctioned from National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) to the Government of Uttar Pradesh for different activities (up-gradation of JE/AES Ward, purchase of ventilators, public health action, etc.).

109 districts in 15 States have been covered under special campaign for JE vaccination.

76 Sentinel sites have been set-up for disease surveillance, and technical support has been provided to States for improved case management in the hospitals.