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Title: Need to take adequate steps to check spread of encephalitis in the country.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA (CHANDRAPUR): There have been hundreds of cases of Japanese encephalitis reported from Andhra Pradesh, Chandrapur and Nagpur in Maharashtra and other parts of the country in the recent past. This disease is spreading fast in other districts also. So far, more than 100 patients affected from this disease have already died in Andhra Pradesh and more than 50 patients have died in Vidarbha Region of Maharashtra. In the past years also, this disease had claimed hundreds of lives but the Government have not succeeded in finding any permanent solution to combat this disease, which breaks out every year. The Government should immediately send a team of experts to coordinate with State Governments concerned in the treatment of patients of Japanese encephalitis and to control the spread of the disease. I also urge the Union Government to provide special financial help to the State Governments to deal with this serious situation.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (NAGPUR): I would like to associate myself with this because this is an acute problem in Nagpur.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right, I allow you to associate with that.