

Title :Breaking out of diseases in the country.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (BERHAMPORE, WEST BENGAL): I shall be grateful to you for your magnanimity. I was desperate enough to raise an issue in regard to the advent of Dengue as well as Kala-azar and Malaria in Bhatpara in Kolkata.

The situation has assumed an alarming proportion. The entire Kolkata City has been gripped with fear and panic. The State Government had first detected the Dengue fever in Kolkata on 13th August but they paid lip service to this issue. Very recently they woke up from their stupor. It is astonishing to note that the Health Minister of West Bengal has advised the people not to consume aspirin tablets. No work, including spray or making available the medicine, has yet been taken up there. So far as Kala-azar is concerned, the districts of Murshidabad, Bankura and Purulia have been invaded. As per a Report, out of 120 blood samples tested so far, 86 samples confirmed Dengue virus. The rate of positive test is so high and untenable that even Mac Eliza test confirms 70 per cent of the blood samples tested so far are Dengue virus positive.

The State Government is ill-equipped to cope up with the situation. Already NISED has been deployed there. I am fortunate enough that the Health Minister himself is present here. So, I take this opportunity to draw his attention so that special measures are taken to combat the situation because the scenario has been deteriorating day by day. People have started steering away from the area. Furthermore, the people living in slums are the most vulnerably affected victims. They are not getting any cooperation or any medical facility from the State Government of West Bengal. The medical infrastructure of West Bengal is unfit to combat this scenario. So, I would urge upon the hon. Minister, through you, to make an observation, if possible, and take an appropriate measure so that the people of West Bengal, especially Kolkata, Bhatpara, Murshidabad, Bankura, Purillia and those areas which have been affected by Dengue, Kala-azar and Malaria get some sort of relief.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): I will look into this. We are, of course, concerned. Some cases of Dengue have been reported there. I have already instructed my officers to have a surveillance and look into the issue. We will be monitoring the situation closely and will be assisting the State of West Bengal to take all preventive measures and also to take care of the curative part [\[R92\]](#).