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Title: Need to Commission a research on prevalence of malaria in Orissa and supply second - line drugs to malaria affected regions - laid.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Fight against malaria is getting out of hand in the tribal pockets of Orissa, where lack of awareness coupled with superstition rule the roost. . Though Orissa's share in the total malaria mortality has shown a decline from 47.7 percent in 2002 to 27 percent in 2005, Plasmodium falciparum Cpt) remains a cause of worry. It still hovers around 85 percent, while the State contributes over 40 percent of such cases reported in India. In fact, neighbouring Chattisgarh has shown better results in anti-malaria programme. The annual parasite index in Chattisgarh currently stands at 8.2 percent whereas in Orissa, it is higher i.e. 10.74 percent. Moreover, mortality rate among children is higher in Orissa. Though the difference in pf incidence between these two States is marginal~ Chattisgarh has shown a lower death rate i.e. 0.17 per million. In Orissa, it is 7.3. The reason need to be explored.

The blacket programme has not changed the situation in tribal pockets.

There is a need to supplement with inputs on behaviour of tribals, their socio-economic status and environmental condition. As only 11 percent of those running high fever report to a doctor on the first day itself while 70 percent seek treatment from the third day, the behaviour of malaria patients in Orissa says it all. Therefore there is a need to make an appropriate study on the community behaviour of the tribal society in Orissa. I would urge upon the Government to send a research team to Orissa to make an indepth study and at the same time supply of second-time drugs to the malaria- affected region be provided at the earliest.