

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4616
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23RD MARCH, 2018**

ELIMINATION OF KALA AZAR

4616. SHRIMATI K. MARAGATHAM:

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

- (a) whether Kala Azar is secondlargest parasitic killer in world after Malaria, if so, the details and reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government has missed December 2017 deadline announced for elimination of Kala Azar (black fever), if so, the details thereof and the reasons behind the same;
- (c) the State/UT-wise details of Kala Azar cases reported during the last three years; and
- (d) whether the Government is planning to fix any deadline for its elimination, if so the details thereof along with the strategy adopted?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): As per Global Burden of Disease Study, 2013 published in LANCET- an International medical journal, Visceral Leishmaniasis (Kala Azar) was the second largest Neglected Tropical Diseases causing mortality. As per this report, the age- standardised death rate was 0.9 per 1,00,000 population in respect of Kala Azar. Death due to Visceral Leishmaniasis is mainly due to delayed reporting of cases to health facility.

(b): As against elimination target of less than 1 case of Kala Azar per 10,000 population at block level in all the endemic blocks, till 2017, out of 633 endemic blocks, 559 (88%) blocks have achieved the elimination target and 74 remaining blocks (49 are from Bihar and 25 from Jharkhand) could not achieve elimination, due to the following reasons.

1. Reporting of cases from newer foci.
2. Longer incubation period of about 2 years.
3. The endemic blocks located in difficult geographical terrain.
4. Indigenous health seeking behaviour in ethnic, poor and marginalised community.

(c): The State/UT-wise detail of cases of Kala Azar reported during the last three years is annexed at **Annexure**.

(d): Continuous efforts are underway under National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP), a part of the National Health Mission (NHM), a flagship programme of the Government, with an objective to eliminate the disease within a short span of time.

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Annexure

KALA AZAR SITUATION IN INDIA SINCE 2015									
Sl. No.	Affected States	2015		2016		2017 (P)		2018 (P) Till February	
		C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D
1	Bihar	6517	5	4773	0	4127	0	448	0
2	Jharkhand	1262	0	1185	0	1358	0	98	0
3	West Bengal	576	0	179	0	156	0	10	0
4	Uttar Pradesh	131	0	107	0	115	0	3	0
5	Uttarakhand	3	0	2	0	2	0		
6	Assam	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Sikkim	5	0	1	0	0	0		
8	Kerala	4	0	2	0	0	0		
9	Punjab*	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total		8500	5	6249	0	5758	0	559	0
Note :C = Cases, D = Deaths, * = Imported, (P) = Provisional.									