

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1845  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2019**

**ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS SYNDROME (AES) DISEASE IN BIHAR**

**1845. DR. SANJAY SINH:**

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

- (a) the total number of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) cases registered across the State of Bihar since 1st June, 2019;
- (b) the total number of deaths caused by AES in Bihar during the last three years;
- (c) whether it is a fact that AES disease has already spread across 16 districts of Bihar;
- (d) if so, whether the Union Health Ministry has sent any medical research team and the teams of child specialist doctors to Bihar;
- (e) if so, details thereof; and
- (f) what technical assistance has been provided by Government to the State Government of Bihar for handling the problem of AES?

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

(a) to (c): During the period 01.06.2019 to 02.07.2019, a total 813 cases and 162 deaths have been reported from 25 districts of Bihar due to Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES), as against a total of 189 deaths caused by AES in Bihar during the last three years (2016 to 2018).

Cases due to AES are registered from various districts of Bihar but most of these cases are from Muzaffarpur, East Champaran, Sitamarhi and Vaishali.

(d) to (f): As per Constitutional provisions, 'Health' is a State subject. However, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) have taken measures to support State in containment of AES cases as follows:

- **Union Health & Family Welfare Minister (HFM)** had reviewed the situation with Health Minister of Bihar and also with officials from Ministry.

- ò MoHFW had deputed a Central team of experts consisting of Public Health Specialist from various Central Government Institutes to assist the State Government in containment and management measures.
- ò HFM visited Bihar along with Minister of State (HFW) and team of officers. HFM reviewed the situation and also visited Shri Krishna Medical College & Hospital, (SKMCH), Muzaffarpur.
- ò MoHFW deployed another high level multi-disciplinary team to Muzaffarpur drawing senior Paediatricians from various central government Institutes to advise state in their efforts to manage the cases. Epidemiologists from National Center for Disease Control (NCDC), senior paediatricians, Laboratory technicians from central level are present in Muzaffarpur since 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019.
- ò Strategic Health Operations Centre (SHOC) facility of NCDC was activated to monitor the AES situation in Muzaffarpur and co-ordinate tasks at the field level.
- ò MoHFW had further deputed 5 teams of Doctors along with technicians from Central Government Hospitals to SKMCH to support clinical management.
- ò Central team consisting experts from Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) was also deployed at SKMCH. The team is also scrutinising and reviewing the case records of discharge and deceased patients using a standardised tool to know the reasons for mortality.
- ò Orientation training of all Paediatricians of SKMCH on clinical case management and treatment protocol of AES was conducted on regular basis by the Central Team of paediatricians.