

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:256
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2003
ERADICATION OF KALA AZAR
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;CHARAN DAS MAHANT

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

- (a) whether the Union Government are aware that due to Kala Azar disease a large number of persons have been affected in the country recently particularly in West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether any Central team has been sent to the affected States to assess the situation;
- (d) if so, the findings thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken to provide financial assistance and relief for the eradication of this disease?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a)to(e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 256 FOR 6.8.2003

(a) & (b): Kala-azar is endemic in Bihar and a few districts of Jharkhand, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh. As per reports received from State Health Authorities, number of Kala-azar Cases, State-wise during the last three years and the current year (upto June,2003) have been as under:-

Affected States	2000	2001	2002	2003#
	No. of Cases	No. of Cases	No. of Cases	No. of Cases
Bihar	12909	10327	9389	5050
Jharkhand	469	589	758	1059
West Bengal	1244	1238	1592	635
Uttar Pradesh	47	22	32	2
Imported Cases treated in Delhi	84	63##	74	7

As per reports received upto June, 2003

One imported case treated in Gujarat.

(c) to (e): The problem of control of Kala-azar is addressed under the Centrally Sponsored Kala-azar control Programme. The Central Government provides anti Kala-azar drugs and insecticides for Kala-azar control. The concerned State Governments bear the cost of transportation, spray wages etc. However, it is now proposed to meet this expenditure also from the Central Budget so as to facilitate better implementation.

The strategy for Kala-azar control adopted under the programme includes:-

- Interruption of transmission through vector control by undertaking residual insecticidal spraying in affected areas.
- Early diagnosis and complete treatment through Primary Health Care System.
- Health Education and Community Participation

Situation is monitored through regular reports/returns and periodic visits by Officers from the Centre.

