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Title: Spread of deadly malaria in India.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (CUTTACK): I would like to raise a very important issue before the House today, which relates to the deadliest form of Malaria on the rise in India. Malaria is caused by the deadly plasmodium falciparum parasite which is becoming common in India. Even though the number of Malaria cases are declining from 30 lakhs in 1996 to 16 lakhs in 2006; infections caused by plasmodium falciparum have increased from 38 per cent to nearly 50 per cent. States like Orissa, which has about three per cent of the population, reports 28 per cent of India falciparum cases. Five States including Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh record 60 per cent of India's Malaria cases, while West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh report high proportion of plasmodium falciparum deaths. As Malaria remains a major health problem in South East Asia with 83 per cent of the population at risk, there is a need to increase Artemisinin-based Combination Therapy (ACT). Multi-drug resistant Malaria originated from Mekong region and spread westward to Myanmar and now reaching Bangladesh. It would soon be in India. Taking this into consideration, is the Government going to change its Malaria Drug Policy immediately and shift to higher coverage of ACT?

MD. SALIM (CALCUTTA – NORTH EAST): I associate with him.

MR. SPEAKER: All right. The whole House associates with the issue. [\[r15\]](#)