

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 09.11.2010
ANSWERED ON
CHOLERA EPIDEMIC IN ORISSA .

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SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that a number of people in Orissa have died of cholera epidemic in recent months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any assistance has been sought from the Central Government by the State to control the disease;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, whether any step has been taken by the Central Government on its own?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) & (b): Yes. 41 deaths in Rayagada district and 8 deaths in Kalahandi district due to acute diarrhoeal diseases have been reported in recent months in Orissa.

(c) : No.

(d): Does not arise.

(e): A Central team comprising experts from National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) Delhi and National Institute of Cholera & Enteric Diseases (NICED), Kolkata was deputed by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to assist the state/district health authorities in the investigation and control of outbreaks. The team visited the affected areas of Rayagada and Kalahandi districts during the period 17-21 September 2010. The recommendations made to the State Government in order to minimize the risk of further outbreaks of cholera include provision of safe water, adopting safe practices in food handling, sanitary disposal of human waste, personal and domestic hygienic practices, availability of ORS in all the habitations, making all tube wells functional to ensure that people use safe water for drinking and domestic purpose and promoting hand washing with soap and water (with earth and water, if soap is not available) after defecation and before preparing and eating meals. The cases and deaths declined in the second fortnight of September 2010.