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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2495
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH DECEMBER, 2019

SPECIALISED HOSPITAL AT MUZAFFARPUR, BIHAR

2495. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that following the deaths of newborns, due to "chamki fever" (Acute Encephalitis syndrome) in Bihar, it was planned to establish a specialised hospital at Muzaffarpur, so that provision for research related thereto and treatment thereof could be made;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) whether Government will constitute a team of specialist doctors to provide treatment for this disease, so that newborns could be saved from this annually recurring disease?

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

(a) & (b): The Government of India provides regular financial and technical support to the State Governments under National Health Mission (NHM) and various other tertiary sector schemes. The State Governments submit proposals for availing such support from the Central Government. A proposal for setting up of 100 bedded paediatric ICU at Muzaffarpur, Bihar was received from the State Government of Bihar. State Government of Bihar has been advised to submit a proposal as per CPWD current Schedule of rates.

(c): As per Constitutional provisions, 'Health' is a State subject. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) provides necessary support for containment of disease outbreak in the States. As regards, Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) in Bihar this year, the details of steps taken by Central Government are as under:

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

- 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.
- 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 and Laboratory technicians from central level were deployed in Muzaffarpur.
- 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.
- MoHFW had further deputed 5 teams of Doctors along with technicians from Central Government Hospitals to SKMCH to support clinical management.
- Central team consisting experts from Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) was also deployed at SKMCH. The team scrutinized and reviewed the case records of discharged and deceased patients using a standardized tool to know the reasons for mortality.
- 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.
- The Ministry has also constituted a Committee of Experts in Paediatrics to develop a concise training curriculum to provide hand-on skill based training to doctors of Central Government Hospitals, State Government doctors of Muzaffarpur and adjoining districts for effective management of AES cases well in advance.
- Virus Research and Diagnostic Laboratory at Muzaffarpur has become operational. Serological diagnosis for common pathogens like Dengue (NS1 Antigen detection and Serum IgM) and Japanese Encephalitis Virus is being performed and reports are being sent to Department of Health Research. Weekly data is being uploaded on National Institute of Epidemiology online portal since September, 2019.
- A fully automatic Indian Meteorological Department's observatory has been made operational at Muzaffarpur for daily weather observations. Data is being shared with concerned authorities.

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