

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4418  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2019**

**ACTION PLAN FOR AES**

**4418. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:  
SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL:**

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

(a) whether the Supreme Court has sought explanation from State of Bihar as well as Union Government on steps taken to control the disease which killed more than 150 children in Bihar due to Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES);

(b) whether State as well as Union Government have submitted their reply and future action plan to tackle the situation and shortcomings of the past; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Union Government in consultation with the State to avoid deaths due to this virus in the country?

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

(a) to (c): A Writ Petition (C) No.780/2019 in the matter of Manohar Pratap Vs Union of India and others was filed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court raising issue of outbreak of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) in Muzffarpur, Bihar. Government of India has filed an affidavit in the matter in Hon'ble Supreme Court also indicating, steps taken by Central Government to support the State Government for containment and management of AES in Bihar. The main steps taken by the Central Government in the matter are as under:-

- ò **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 scrutinizing and reviewing the case records of discharge and deceased patients using a standardized tool to know the reasons for mortality.
- ò Government has also decided to constitute inter-disciplinary, high quality research team to establish precise cause of recent Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) outbreak and also for timely intervention and management of AES in future to save precious human lives.
- 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.