

(c) the details of action Government has taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Income Tax Department has received certain information under the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) from the French Government regarding accounts of Indians in HSBC Bank.

(b) The information received is covered by the confidentiality clause under the DTAA and cannot be, therefore, divulged or shared.

(c) Whenever such information is received, it is investigated and only thereafter the untaxed amounts are assessed and brought to taxation. Although the tax has not been assessed or raised, some persons have voluntarily paid taxes amounting to about Rs. 135 crore. The stage of assessment has not arrived in these cases.

Outbreak of mysterious disease in Bihar and West Bengal

2240. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had conducted any study about the mysterious disease which has killed some number of children in Bihar and West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government to control such mysterious disease which killed some children recently in Bihar and West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) and (b) In Muzaffarpure district of Bihar, an outbreak of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) was reported in June, 2011 and in Gaya district, an outbreak of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) was reported in August-September, 2011.

West Bengal Government has reported that there is no report of any mysterious disease that has killed children. However five districts of north Bengal have reported cases of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome in July, 2011.

The following steps have been taken to control Acute Encephalitis Syndrome/ JE:—

1. Case management of AES cases as per case management guidelines.
2. Strengthening of AES surveillance.
3. Improved Entomological surveillance.
4. Vector control measures.
5. Strengthening of Routine Immunization against JE.