

NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
Government of India  
NDMA Bhawan  
A-1 Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi – 110029

18 Dec 2011

**PRESS RELEASE**

**NDMA Vice Chairman included as Special Invitee to the Group of Ministers on JE/AES**

Hon'ble Prime Minister has approved the inclusion of Shri M. Shashidhar Reddy, Vice Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) as a Special Invitee to the Group of Ministers (GoM) constituted on the issue of Japanese Encephalitis (JE) and Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES). A memorandum to this effect has been issued on 15 Dec 2011 by the Cabinet Secretariat.

It may be mentioned that NDMA has taken several initiatives recently to deal with this problem of JE/AES in Eastern Uttar Pradesh. This included the launching of Social Mobilization Campaign with the slogan “ *Har Parivar Ladega Aapada se !* to cover 14 districts in four divisions namely Gorakhpur, Basti, Azamgarh, and Deopatan. As a part of this campaign, 4000 master trainers at block level and one lakh trainers consisting of health workers like ANMs, ASHA, State Health Workers besides Anganwadi workers and teachers would be trained. These people will ultimately reach out to every household in these 14 districts to raise public awareness about measures to be taken by people to help themselves for control and prevention of JE/AES.

The constitution of GoM was initially approved by Prime Minister on 4 Nov 2011 and it included five Union Ministers namely Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad (Chairman), Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Shri Kamal Nath, Minister for Urban Development, Shri Mukul Wasnik, Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Shri Jairam Ramesh, Minister for Rural Development and Minister for Drinking Water and Sanitation and Smt Krishna Tirath, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Women and Child Development. The GoM will evolve and suggest a multi-pronged strategy to deal with JE/AES.

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