Author's response to reviews

Title: Spatial and temporal variation and hotspot detection of kala-azar disease in Vaishali district (Bihar), India

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Author's response to reviews:

To
Philippa Harris, PhD
Executive Editor
The Editor-in-Chief
BMC Infectious Disease

Dear Sir,

Thank you very much for your reply. As per the comments raised by the medical Editors I am submitting the point-wise answer. It is for you kind consideration and for needful.

However, I have already mentioned in my manuscript that "The data were obtained from the State Health Society (SHS), Bihar (India) and the Public Health Centers (PHCs)" which is already in the methodology section. The data has been collected from the Public Health Centres, District Head office and Bihar State health Society during the field survey. These data are not available in website or freely. I have collected the data by taking the permission from the Head of the organization and also followed the official procedure to obtained these data from the state and district health offices and is used in my research purpose.

As such it is to inform you that, I have acknowledge the State Health Society (SHS), Bihar (India) and the Public Health Centers (PHCs) in my manuscript to provide us the data freely and for their kind co-operation.

It is for your kind information and future course of action. Kindly acknowledge the receipt.
If you have any question, kindly feel free to ask me. Waiting for your affirmative reply.

With warm regards,

Gouri Sankar Bhunia,
Author of the manuscript

Answer to Medical Editor's Comments

Comments 1: Could you clarify if this data was freely available (and if so supply a link or details of this so that others can access it)?

Answer: These data are not freely available at any website.

Comment 2: Alternatively if you were specifically given access to the data could you clarify who approved this?

Answer: The data has been collected from the Public Health Centres, District Head office and Bihar State health Society during the field survey. As such, I have collected the data by taking the permission from the Head of the organization and also followed the official procedure to obtained these data from the state and district health offices and is used in my research purpose.

Comments 3: This information should be contained within your methods section.

Answer: I have already mentioned in my revised manuscript that "The data were obtained from the State Health Society (SHS), Bihar (India) and the Public Health Centers (PHCs)". Page 5, line 107 -109