

Encephalitis toll rises in India

An epidemic of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) – a brain inflammation – has afflicted more than 600 children and killed at least 150 across the Indian state of Bihar since the beginning of June

Bihar districts affected

100km

60 miles

Muzaffarpur: 129 deaths

East Champaran

Sitamarhi

Samastipur

Vaishali

Bhagalpur



■ **AES:** Known locally as ***Chamki Bukhar***, disease claimed record 150 lives in 2014

■ Experts have blamed deaths on ***hypoglycin A*** – toxin found in unripe lychees

■ When consumed by malnourished children, hypoglycin A causes ***hypoglycaemia*** which rapidly decreases blood sugar levels



Bihar state

New Delhi

INDIA