

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

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 163
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH AUGUST, 2024**

CENTRAL HELPLINE FOR DENGUE CASES IN THE COUNTRY

163 SMT. DARSHANA SINGH:

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to start a Central helpline number to tackle the threat of dengue and check dengue cases during the monsoon season in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the work done in this direction;
- (c) whether Central Government has issued any directives to the State Governments in this regard, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has identified the areas where special attention needs to be paid on, if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise; and
- (e) the other measures taken/being taken by Government to create awareness among common people about dengue in the country?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)**

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA
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(a) to (c) Government of India(GoI) monitors Dengue situation through weekly reports submitted by the States and Union Territories. GoI under the National Health Mission implements National Vector Borne Disease Control Program (NVBDCP) for prevention and Control of Vector Borne Diseases including Dengue. As health is a state subject, GoI does not propose to start a Central helpline. All States/Union Territories are having helpline number for addressing the queries from the community.

(d) Dengue situation and preparedness of the States are reviewed wherein States are requested for special attention in the areas reporting higher number of cases.

Such areas are identified from the weekly reports of the States.

(e) Measures taken by Government of India to create awareness among people about Dengue in the country are as below:

- For awareness among the community both at Centre and states various Information Education and Communication (IEC) activities are undertaken like interpersonal communication (participation in Melas, TV & Radio Talks Schools & colleges communities etc.), messages on social and electronic media emphasizing on keeping houses and surroundings mosquito breeding free and awareness on dengue signs and symptoms etc.
- Observance of National Dengue Day on 16th May and anti-dengue month in July every year with focused Information Education and Communication (IEC)/Behaviour Change Communication(BCC) activities and advocacy.
- For control of Dengue role of community and other stakeholders is crucial. Accordingly, guidelines on 'Strategy and Plan of action for Effective Community Participation for Prevention and Control of Dengue' have been shared with States for adoption.
- Time to time advisories have been issued for focused IEC/BCC on Dengue for prevention and control and to deal with any future outbreaks. Ministry has developed various IEC/BCC material and has disseminated to States. Recently IEC Flipbook for frontline health workers/ASHA was prepared and released during Technical Consultation on Strengthening Inter-sectoral collaboration for prevention and control of Dengue on 20th June, 2024.
- Under National Health Mission, necessary and sufficient budgetary support is provided to States/ Union Territories for Programme implementation including IEC/BCC activities for prevention and control of Dengue.
