

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 170
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2017**

ZIKA VIRUS

**170. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI V. ELUMALAI:
SHRI KUNDARIYA MOHAN BHAI KALYANJI BHAI:**

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the World Health Organisation (WHO) has issued a warning regarding spread of Zika virus in Asian Countries including India;
- (b) if so, the details of the action plan of Government to prevent the virus from spreading in India;
- (c) whether the country has the infrastructure and expertise for testing and treating persons infected with Zika virus; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a): World Health Organization(WHO) declared Zika virus disease to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) on 1st February, 2016 following outbreak of Zika Virus Disease in Brazil and other Latin countries and its association with birth defects (Microcephaly) in new born. Further, World Health Organization declared that it ceased to be Public Health Emergency on 18th November, 2016.

(b): The Zika action plan of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has a three pronged strategy of

- I. surveillance at points of entry and with community
- II. Early detection and containment of the outbreak and
- III. Pragmatic approach for management through merger with National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP), if India becomes endemic for Zika Virus Disease.

(c) & (d): There are 27 laboratories in Government Sector that can test Zika virus disease (**Annexure**). The laboratory personnel in these laboratories are trained. Zika virus disease is a mild febrile illness which requires only symptomatic treatment for fever, body-ache etc.

Laboratories having capacity for testing Zika virus disease.

1. King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
2. NIV Field Unit, Allapuzha, Kerala
3. Manipal Centre for Virus Research, KMC, Manipal
4. BJ Medical College, Ahmedabad
5. Regional Medical Research Centre, Bhubaneshwar
6. National Institute for Cholera & Enteric Diseases, Kolkata
7. King George Medical University, Lucknow
8. Regional Medical Research Centre, Dibrugarh
9. Regional Medical Research Centre, Jabalpur
10. Jawaharlal Institute of Post Graduate Education & Research, Puducherry
11. Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh, (VRDL)
12. Desert Medical Research Centre, Jodhpur (ICMR)
13. Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences, Kochi, Kerala
14. Sri Venkatswara Institute of Medical Science, Tirupati Andhra Pradesh (VRDL).
15. Gandhi medical College, Secunderabad, Telangana (VRDL).
16. Rajendra Memorial Research Institute of Medical Sciences, Agamkuan, Patna (VRDL).
17. All India Institute Of Medical Sciences, Bhopal Madhya Pradesh (VRDL).
18. The Tamil Nadu Dr. M. G. R Medical university, Chennai Tamil Nadu,
19. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Raipur Chhattisgarh
20. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi
21. Institute of Preventive Management, Hyderabad
22. Haffkine Institute, Mumbai
23. NIMHANS, Bengaluru
24. Central Research Institute, Kasauli
25. NEIGRIMS, Shillong
26. National Institute of Virology, Pune
27. National Centre for Disease Control, Delhi