

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 18
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21ST JUNE, 2019
REVIEW OF NIPAH VIRUS OUTBREAK IN KERALA**

***18. ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:
SHRI HIBI EDEN:**

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

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the outbreak of Nipah Virus in Kerala, if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government against Nipah Virus attack in Kerala;

(b) whether the Government has any statistics regarding the number of deaths occurred due to Nipah in Kerala, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted a study or planning to appoint any special team to study about the Nipah outbreak in Kerala and its origin, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the findings of the Central team which visited the State?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 18* FOR 21ST JUNE, 2019**

(a) to (d): Yes, in the first week of June, 2019 outbreak of Nipah virus disease has been reported from Kerala. Immediately, the Union Health & Family Welfare Minister took a review meeting and a Multi-disciplinary Central teams consisting of experts from the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) was deployed in the affected district to assist and guide the State health authorities. The team is supporting the State in investigations, contact tracing, sample testing and management of the Nipah Virus Disease (NiVD). Point of Care Test facility has been established by the National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune at Medical College Ernakulum. Experts from National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases (NIHSAD), Bhopal were also involved with the local Animal Husbandry Department in investigation.

NIV, Pune deputed special teams to collect samples from Pteropus or fruit bats, which are the main reservoir for Nipah virus disease. Out of 36 Pteropus species bats tested for Nipah, 12(33%) were found to be positive for “*anti Nipah bat IgG antibodies*”

Strategic Health Operation Centre (SHOC) at NCDC has been activated since 4th June, 2019 and is coordinating with field teams on surveillance and response activities for Nipah containment. A dedicated phone-line has been established at SHOC to answer queries of general public. Further, specific case definition, contact tracing and treatment & clinical management protocol have been provided to State authorities of Kerala. Details of findings of the central team during 2019 Nipah outbreak in Ernakulum, Kerala is as follows:

- i. Single confirmed case of NiVD has been reported from Ernakulum district of Kerala on 3rd June 2019.
- ii. A total of 50 suspects were identified and all of them tested negative for Nipah.
- iii. A total of 330 contacts are being followed up on daily basis.
- iv. No new case has been reported.
- v. During the year 2019, so far, no fatality has been reported due to Nipah in Kerala.
