

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1974
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2019**

ZIKA VIRUS INFECTION

1974. SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:

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

- (a) whether some cases of Zika virus infection have been reported in various parts of the country including Maharashtra as per the World Health Organization;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of cases of Zika virus infection reported in the country during each of the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the details of the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) the number of cases reported wherein people have been infected by the Zika virus from the tears and sweat of another infected individual; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b) The State/UT-wise details of number of cases of Zika virus infection reported in the country during each of the last three years are as under:

States/UTs	2017	2018	2019
Gujarat	3	1	0
Tamil Nadu	1	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	0	130	0
Rajasthan	0	159	0
All other States/UTs	0	0	0
Total	4	290	0

(c): Ministry of Health and Family Welfare took following remedial steps to contain spread of Zika virus disease:

- The Zika action plan was implemented in all the affected States.
- Central teams were deployed in the affected States to assist them in containment operation.
- Hon'ble Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Senior officers of the Ministry reviewed the situation on regular basis and modulated the action for containment.
- Union Secretary (Health & Family Welfare) reviewed the situation and preparedness to Zika virus disease in all States through video conferencing with the States/UTs.

- Advisory were issued to all States/UTs to strengthen vector control activities and surveillance for Zika virus disease.
- Joint Monitoring Group under the chairmanship of Director General of Health Services (DGHS) met regularly to review the current situation of Zika virus disease in the affected States/UTs.
- Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) supported the Viral Research and Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDL) in the affected States for testing clinical samples.
- IEC material prepared by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare was provided to the affected States.
- Surveillance strategy to ensure that the disease has not spread beyond the containment zone was provided to the affected States.
- Financial support was ensured through National Health Mission.

(d) & (e): Zika Virus disease is primarily spread by bite of infected Aedes mosquito. It can also be transmitted through body fluids such as semen (sexual route) and through blood transfusion. A pregnant women infected with Zika Virus can pass the virus to fetus during pregnancy or at time of birth. Transmission of infection through tears, saliva, sweat etc. has not been conclusively established.