

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.275
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH AUGUST, 2021
ZIKA VIRUS CASES IN KERALA**

***275. SHRI HIBI EDEN:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has data regarding detection of Zika Virus cases in Kerala; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of Zika virus cases reported so far in the State?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)**

(a) & (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 275* FOR 6TH AUGUST, 2021**

Zika virus disease is caused by a virus transmitted primarily by bite of Aedes mosquitoes. It is usually a mild disease manifesting as fever, rash, conjunctivitis, muscle and joint pain, malaise, or headache. Most people with Zika virus infection do not develop symptoms. However, Zika virus infection during pregnancy can cause infants to be born with microcephaly and other congenital malformations, known as congenital Zika syndrome. The disease was first reported in India in 2017.

As on 2nd August 2021, 65 cases have been reported by Kerala. The district wise breakup is as under;

| District | Total no. of cases |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Thiruvananthapuram | 61 |
| Ernakulam | 02 |
| Kottayam | 01 |
| Kollam | 01 |

Government of India has taken the following measures :

- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare prepared and widely disseminated Zika action plan detailing control and containment activities to be followed in the event of an outbreak.
- The Ministry conducts vector survey through Regional Offices of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India in the International Airports and their surroundings in the country.
- Central Cross-checking Organization (CCCO), NVBDCP, GoI carries out entomological survey in the assigned International Airports of the country to maintain Aedes breeding free status.
- Advisories are issued to all State/UTs for intensification of vector control activities.
- Availability of insecticides and functioning of fogging machine status is monitored through monthly reports from the States.
- Surveillance for microcephaly in newborns is being undertaken under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare's Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK). No rise in cases of microcephaly has been reported from the State of Kerala so far.
- Central multi-disciplinary teams have been deployed to investigate and support State health departments in control and containment activities during all these outbreaks. In the current outbreak in Kerala too, a multi-disciplinary Central Team had visited Kerala from 10th to 21st July, 2021 for aid state health department in control and containment measures.
