

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 991
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03RD DECEMBER 2021**

ZIKA VIRUS

**991. Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma:
Shri Sunil DattatrayTatkare:
ShrimatiSupriyaSule:
Dr. AmolRamsingKolhe:
Dr. SubhashRamraoBhamre:
Dr. DNV Senthilkumar. S.:**

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

- (a) whether some cases of Zika virus have been reported in various parts of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has sent any expert team to affected States in this regard, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the instructions issued by the Government to States/UTs to deal with the Zika virus;
- (d) whether the country has the infrastructure and expertise for testing and treating persons infected with Zika virus; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action plan of the Government to prevent the virus from spreading in India?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

- (a) Cases of Zika virus have been reported from various parts of the country. Outbreaks of Zika were reported in 2021 from Kerala, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh with 83, 1 and 149 cases, respectively, as on 27th Nov, 2021.

- (b) The Government has sent Central teams to all these States for initiating control and preventive measures. Central teams have worked with State and District authorities to implement Zika containment plan as per MoHFW's guidelines.
- (c) The Government of India has formulated an action plan for Zika containment that may be adopted by the States / UTs or modified according to State /UT requirement. This action plan contains all macro and micro details for managing Zika outbreaks and contains list of laboratories strengthened for Zika testing. Action plan can be accessed by visiting https://main.mohfw.gov.in/media/disease-alerts/national-guidelines-zika-virus_disease/action-plan-managing-zika-virus-disease
- (d) & (e) The country has requisite expertise and infrastructure to test and treat persons infected with Zika virus. It is a mosquito borne, viral disease that may present with mild fever, cough, conjunctivitis, myalgia, asthenia and rash. Disease usually lasts 2- 7 days and is not known to cause mortality. However, babies born to mothers who are infected with Zika virus during pregnancy are known to develop neurological disabilities and malformations.

Taking note of these, Government is presently doing sentinel surveillance of microcephaly. It has developed various resource material for utilization by medical practitioners, laboratories, blood banks, guidelines for mosquito control and community sensitization for prevention of the disease. Central teams are deputed to the States for assistance in case of Zika virus outbreak.