



भानु प्रताप शर्मा  
सचिव  
**B.P. SHARMA**  
Secretary



भारत सरकार  
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग  
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय  
Government of India  
Department of Health and Family Welfare  
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

D.O.No. 7-71/2016/NVBDCP/DEN-Advisory  
Dated : 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2016

Dear Chief Secretary,

Zika virus disease is an emerging viral disease transmitted through the bite of an infected Aedes mosquito. Since it has the potential of international spread, given the wide geographical distribution of the mosquito vector, a lack of immunity among population in newly affected areas and the high volume of international travel, WHO has already issued alert to countries including India. World Health Organisation has declared Zika virus disease to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2016.

Though, as of now, the disease has not been reported in India, the mosquito Aedes aegypti, which transmits Zika virus also dengue and Chickungunya is widely prevalent in India. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare issued guidelines on the Zika virus disease on 2.2.2016 (copy enclosed).

Directorate of NVBDCP have prepared and issued a draft advisory to the States/UTs for intensification of strategies of Mid Term Plan for vector control with focused supervision in all the districts/municipalities. I would urge your State to intensify integrated vector management and augment the measures undertaken for control of dengue/dengue hemorrhagic fever. The integrated vector control will stress on vector surveillance (both for adult and larvae), vector management through environmental modification/manipulation; personal protection, biological and chemical control at household, community and institutional levels.

States and UTs where dengue transmission is going on currently due to conducive weather conditions (mainly in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Puducherry etc) should ensure extra vigil.

The disease transmission can be reduced with sustained high level Government commitment, strengthening of the public health infrastructure, inter-sectoral collaboration and community participation. The role of non-health sectors is critical for control of these vector-borne diseases. Timely detection and control of

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