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Media alert from the Media Scanning & Verification Cell, IDSP-NCDC.

Alert ID	Publication Date	Reporting Date	Place Name	News Source/Publication Language
4759	23.07.2018	24.07.2018	Goa	www.navhindtimes.in/English http://www.navhindtimes.in/5-year-old-succumbs-to-dengue-in-vasco/
Title:	Five-year-old student of Regina Mundi School, Chicalim, died of suspected dengue fever in south Goa			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU-South Goa, SSU-Goa			

Five-year-old lower kindergarten (LKG) student of Regina Mundi School, Chicalim, died of suspected dengue fever after he tested positive following the preliminary NS1 test.

Ashis Mahesh Kumar Nishad, a resident of Naquelim, Chicalim, succumbed to the vector-borne disease while undergoing treatment at the Goa Medical College and Hospital (GMC) at Bambolim on Saturday afternoon. The final rites were conducted on Monday.

This is the second case of a student's death due to dengue in the last two years in Vasco. A 5-year-old LKG student Lavanya Naik, resident of Headland-Sada and studying in a school at Chicalim, had died of the disease while undergoing treatment at the GMC in August 2016. She was residing at her uncle's place at Assoi Dongri in Dabolim when she was found to be infected with the vector-borne disease.

Speaking to this daily, medical officer in charge of the primary health centre at Cortalim Dr Socorro Quadros said, "I got to know about the death of the student on Saturday evening. It was a suspected case of dengue, as he tested positive for the NS1 test at the initial stage. We have sent the blood samples of the child at

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**Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control,
Ministry Of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India**

22-Sham Nath Marg, Delhi – 110 054

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microbiology and at IBSP cell at Bambolim and we could get the confirmation of the reports more accurately."

Dr Quadros said that the child was running fever from July 7 onwards and taken to two private doctors as per the information provided by his father. "On July 10, he was admitted to the Cottage Hospital at Chicalim and thereafter on July 12, he was referred to the GMC after the child was found vomiting," said Dr Quadros.

He said that basically the infection of dengue originated from Gulmohar residential area and its surrounding localities in Chicalim from where around 14 suspected cases of dengue were reported. "The student who died on Saturday at the GMC was among the 14 children residing in Naquelim, Chicalim area. Two are still undergoing treatment at the GMC. The others have been discharged from the Cottage Hospital and also from other hospitals where they were admitted. Of the 14 children, 11 study in the Regina Mundi School," said Dr Quadros.

"The health authorities swung into action and started anti-larval and fogging activities in the Regina Mundi School. We have identified mosquito breeding places in the school premises as part of the preventive and precautionary measures. The Vasco urban health centre has taken up the task of wiping out the vector-borne diseases," said Dr Quadros.

He said that although dengue cases have been reported from outside the school, the health authorities have cleared all the possible breeding grounds of mosquitoes in the premises of the Regina Mundi School. "Presently the school is being closely monitored by the health authorities," he said.

Meanwhile, the management of Regina Mundi School has decided to write a letter to the health authorities to ascertain the exact cause of the death of the five-year-old student.

Speaking to this daily, headmaster of the Regina Mundi School Bro Vinay Kadia said, "The health authorities have not told us the exact cause of the death of the five-year-old LKG student. We wanted to know the exact cause of the death and that's why the school management has decided to write to the health authorities."

He said that the boy was not attending classes since July 1. "The inquiry has revealed that the boy was suffering from loose motions and was found to have fluid in his lungs and stomach," said Bro Kadia. "The school management is deeply saddened following the incident, as he was a budding student," said Bro Kadia.

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“With the outbreak of dengue, the school administration has taken all the preventive measures and students have been instructed to wear long pants, as dengue mosquitoes tend to bite below the knees. We have suggested to the parents to see that the children wear socks and long pants. Parents have also been requested to apply mosquito repellents on their children’s skin,” said Bro Kadia.

He said that the health authorities have provided all kinds of support to the school in preventing the breeding of mosquitoes following the outbreak of the disease. “The Cortalim primary health centre suggested lighting mosquito coils in the evening in all classrooms. The night watchman lights mosquito coils in each classroom and then in the morning he opens the windows. The health authorities fumigate the campus every day. We have emptied stagnant water accumulated in coconut shells and pots and cleared plastics and mowed the grass in and around the school campus,” said Bro Kadia. He, however, denied about construction activity in the school premises as showed by some electronic media.

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