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Government of India



Media Scanning & Verification Cell



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

Alert ID	Publication Date	Reporting Date	Place Name	News Source/Publication Language
5977	14.10.2020	14.10.2020	Ahmedabad Gujarat	www/timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ahmedabad/chikungunya-cases-up-113-dengue-dips-92/articleshow/78649123.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst
Title:	Gujarat: Chikungunya cases up 113%; dengue dips 92%			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Ahmedabad, SSU-Gujarat			

Chikungunya cases this year registered a 113% rise compared to 2019. Cases of dengue and malaria, however, declined by 92% and 87%.

Health officials are yet to find out the reason behind the rise of chikungunya cases. "Dengue and chikungunya both are viral infections spread by Aedes mosquito. If the mosquito density is high it would have resulted in increase in dengue cases also. We are analyzing the trend to find out the reason behind it. We are scanning the areas reporting an increase in chikungunya cases," said Bhavin Solanki, the medical health officer.

The cases are on the rise since August and it continued to increase in October. In the first 10 days of the month, the average case per day was six against four in September. Officials said that total dengue cases may be less as compared to the last year, but currently there is a steady rise in cases.

The officials said that in 2019, 13 dengue deaths were reported against which this year there have been no deaths either due to dengue or chikungunya. He said cases of malaria and falciparum malaria were also declining in the city.

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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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VECTOR THRUST

Month	Malaria		Dengue		Chikungunya	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
Jan	25	18	11	81	17	23
Feb	29	20	18	24	4	7
Mar	76	28	7	33	3	11
Apr	223	31	8	15	0	6
May	395	31	13	11	5	1
Jun	383	29	12	16	4	0
Jul	857	44	137	22	18	3
Aug	832	109	351	3	9	20
Sept	616	126	1,409	47	18	116
Oct*	374	49	1,439	23	37	58



* Figures for 2020 are cases up to October 10

“This year fewer raids were conducted against commercial establishments and construction sites because the administration was engaged more in the Covid management,” said the official.

Prof Deepak Saxena, an epidemiologist at IIPH-G, said that along with *Aedes aegypti*, *Aedes albopictus* (Asian tiger mosquito) also act as secondary vector for the transmission of both chikungunya and dengue. “The tiger mosquito is considered to be highly competent vector for chikungunya. The virus is found replicated to high levels in the mosquito as early as two days after the ingestion of infected blood,” he said. “Circulation pattern of dengue and chikungunya are likely to be modified in the future. Co-infection of mosquitos in Ahmedabad needs study.”

Dr Sanjay Shah, head of emergency department at a city-based hospital, said that the chikungunya outbreak is a cyclical event and was seen about three years back in

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the city. "There are no specific medical reasons for less dengue and more chikungunya cases – but we believe it's to do with the viral distribution and vector carrier," he said, adding that this year, the chikungunya is more severe with patients reporting severe polyarthrititis where they can't even get up from day one.

"Mosquitos for malaria are found in dirty water whereas mosquitos for dengue and chikungunya prefer clean water. It's seen more prevalent on open construction sites and stored water. While malaria mosquitos bite during night hours, Aedes aegypti are active during daytime," said Dr Manoj Vithalani, a city-based consulting physician. "One must wear full-sleeve clothes and clear the open stored water. Compared to last year, we have seen significant rise in chikungunya cases this year. Malaria cases have been reduced perhaps due to cleanliness drives in the light of Covid-19 pandemic."

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