



सत्यमेव जयते  
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# 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
5928	28.06.2020	29.06.2020	Ernakulam Kerala	<a href="http://www.timesofindia.com/English">www.timesofindia.com/English</a> <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kochi/several-areas-in-dist-facing-risk-of-dengue-outbreak/articleshow/76666900.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kochi/several-areas-in-dist-facing-risk-of-dengue-outbreak/articleshow/76666900.cms</a>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Kerala: Several areas in district facing risk of dengue</b>			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU-Ernakulam, SSU-Kerala			

Vector surveys have pointed to high density of *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitos in many areas in Ernakulam indicating that these regions are at high risk of dengue outbreak.

House Index, an indicator for vector surveillance, indicates the percentage of houses infested with the mosquito larvae. If the larvae are present in 10 or more houses out of the 100 houses surveyed in a particular region, the area is categorized as high-risk region.

On the other hand, if its presence is found in fewer than nine houses out of the hundred surveyed in an area, the region would be classified as at moderate risk.

According to the survey, the House Index of the larvae in many areas in the city, including Pottakuzhy, Karukapally, Karanakodam and Vytilla was found to be more than 10, while it was 23 in many rural areas, including in Pandapilly.

**Save Water- Save Life, Save a tree- Don't print unless it's really necessary!**

**Disclaimer:- This is a media alert subject to verification.**

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

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Page 1



एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

"We found the presence of both *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* in the houses of city residents belonging to middle and upper middle-class as well as those who live in rural areas. In houses of well-off people in cities the larvae were commonly found in trays in refrigerators, flower pots, terrace, unused tyres and other places. When we visit houses to take stock of the presence of larvae, many residents behave as if it is the responsibility of the government to get rid of the mosquitoes," said an official with the vector control unit.

The government can eradicate mosquito population outside. But residents need to keep their houses clean to prevent the spread of dengue within the houses, the official said.

"Many people mistakenly believe that the mosquitoes breeding in drains cause dengue. But it is the larvae of *Culex* mosquitoes that breed in the stagnant waters in drains, not *Aedes aegypti* or *Aedes albopictus*. One spoon of fresh water is enough for *Aedes aegypti* to breed. It is the ignorance on the part of residents that leads to high incidence of dengue cases," he added.

Container Index (percentage of water-holding containers infested with larvae) and Breteau Index (number of positive containers per 100 houses inspected) are some other indicators used for vector surveillance.

The Container Index and the Breteau Index are 7 and 16 in Pottakuzhy respectively, where a dengue outbreak was reported last year.

The district has reported a total 1,453 suspected dengue cases from January till June 25 while 119 cases have been confirmed. Out of them, 845 suspected cases and 57 confirmed cases were reported in June itself.

Every year, pre-monsoon cleaning works are carried out in the district but this time around, health workers and local bodies were preoccupied with Covid-19 preventive measures.

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