

## **Advisory regarding prevention of vector borne disease**

As we all are aware, during this crisis situation, due to COVID- 19. Complete Health care facility including health workers of National Vector Borne Diseases Control Programme (NVBDCP) of state are involved in COVID-19 Control activities. Needless to mention, if timely action are not taken for prevention and control of Vector Borne Diseases, the situation of Malaria, Dengue, Chikungunya may go out of control in the ensuing transmission season, which will put additional load on the health system already burdened with COVID-19.

Inter-sectoral co-ordination amongst all the stake holders is of utmost importance for control and prevention of Vector Borne Diseases.

Therefore we hereby request to reiterate on the following activities.

### **1) Director of Municipal Administration and Panchayat.**

- a) Overall improvement of sanitary conditions, desilting of nallahs, drains, Solid waste management and disposal.
- b) Intimation of all construction licences to local health authorities.
- c) Managing discarded receptacles –namely tins, buckets or any other consumable packaged items such as plastic cups/trays and waste material, etc. scattered around houses – should be removed and buried in landfills. Plant waste (coconut shells, cocoa husks, etc.) should be disposed of properly. Glass bottles, cans and other small containers should be reused, recycled or buried in and fills. Used automobile tyres are of significant importance as breeding sites for urban Aedes vector and are therefore a public health problem, hence needs prompt attentions.
- d) **Managing public place Municipalities** should have in place a programme to inspect and maintain structures in public places such as street lamp posts, park benches and litter bins that may collect water if not regularly checked. Discarded receptacles that may hold water, such as plastic cups, broken bottles and metal cans, should be regularly removed from public areas.

### **2) PWD**

- a) Maintenance of government premises/ residential quarters to ensure no water stagnation and vector breeding.

- b) All constructions undertaken by PWD should have NOC from health department at the time of construction/occupancy.
- c) Sluice valve chambers should be devoid of water collection due to leakages.
- d) To maintain a proper gradient during construction of drains.
- e) To ensure that water collection such as overhead tanks, sumps, fountains, vases, discarded items are not the breeding source in government buildings, as the Vector transmitting these diseases prefers to breed in small collection of clean water. Hence timely source reduction measures are necessary for control of Vector Borne Diseases.

### **3) Department of Education/Higher Education**

- a) Conducting advocacy workshops for teachers, involvement of PTA in prevention and control of VBDs
- b) Identifying nodal teachers for every school/ colleges premises to check for any breeding.
- c) Undertaking projects under NSS/social service projects by way of camps in educating population around.
- d) Organizing posters/essay competition for sensitizing students community for prevention of VBD and inculcate healthy habits and practices.

### **4) Department of Information/AIR/DD**

- a) For publicity to be given for prevention and control of vector borne diseases using various modes of mass media.

### **5) Captain of Ports/ Fisheries department**

- a) Seeking co-operation for screening of labourers/work force in fishing and other activities.
- b) Ensure nil breeding sites in parked barges/trawlers.
- c) In coastal areas canoes and small boats should be emptied of water and turned upside down when not in use.

### **6) Agricultural department**

- a) Prevention of water stagnation in irrigation canals
- b) Managing plantation areas

- I. Rubber plantations: The latex collecting cups in rubber plantations should be removed during monsoon season or should be kept upside down to avoid holding of rain water.
- II. Coconut/Arecanut: The shoot off fruits and leaves of coconut should be removed weekly. Similarly the leaves of arecanut should also be removed. The plantation area may be cleaned weekly to avoid any water collection that allows breeding of *Ae. albopictus*.

## **7) Labour Dept.**

- a) To ensure enforcement of mandatory screening of labourers for health cards of all registered contractors.

It is pertinent to note that all VBDs in the state of Goa are notifiable diseases. It is also mandatory that labourers working at the construction sites have to be screened for Malaria and to be issued Health cards, renewable every 3 months failing which penalty of Rs 10,000 per labour is imposed as per the provision of the Goa Public Health Act.

Therefore, all the concerned authorities have to ensure that all the premises/ areas under their jurisdiction are free from potential breeding sites and take appropriate measures to get rid of such source of vector breeding. In order to have efficient monitoring, sustaining the preventive measures, a 'Nodal Person' is identified for the same from the Building/Colony/Office/Housing Society/Schools/Colleges/ Government Offices/Institution, etc. under your control. The Nodal person will visit various sites in the premises at least once a week to identify the breeding sites and to take necessary action accordingly viz. checking of lids of overhead water tanks. Water leakages leading to water accumulation, checking for unwanted discarded containers, etc. The local Health authority may be consulted for any further guidelines if situation demands.

This may be done on priority basis to avoid any untoward situation during this monsoon season. The action taken report and the compliance on the instruction mentioned in the circular may be furnished to the director of Health Services.

( Dr. Anant Palekar)  
Dy. Director, NVBDCP

To,

- 1) The Director, Directorate of Accounts, Panaji
- 2) The Director, Directorate of Administrative Tribunal
- 3) The Director, Directorate of Agriculture
- 4) The Director, Directorate of Animal/ Husbandry & Veterinary Services
- 5) The Director, Directorate of Archives and Archeology
- 6) The Director, Directorate of Art and Culture
- 7) The Curator, Central Library
- 8) The Director, Directorate of Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs
- 9) The Collector, Collectorate North Goa
- 10) The Collector, Collectorate South Goa
- 11) The Commissioner, Commercial Taxes Department
- 12) The Registrar, co-operative Societies
- 13) The Director, Directorate of Craftsmen Training
- 14) The Director, Directorate of NRI Affairs
- 15) The Director, Directorate of Education
- 16) The Director, Directorate of Electricity
- 17) The Director, Directorate of Evacuee Property
- 18) The Commissioner of Excise, Panaji
- 19) The Chief Inspector of Factories & Boilers
- 20) The Director, Directorate of Fire & Emergency Services
- 21) The Director, Directorate of Fisheries
- 22) The Director, Directorate of Food & Drugs Administration
- 23) The Chief Conservator of Forest, Panaji
- 24) Executive Editor, Goa Gazetteer
- 25) The Director, Directorate of Health Services
- 26) The Director, Directorate of Higher Education
- 27) DGP/Commdt. Home Guards & Civil Defense
- 28) The Director, Directorate of Industries Trade & Commerce
- 29) The Director, Directorate of Information & Technology
- 30) The Commissioner of Labour & Employment
- 31) The Director, Directorate of Law & Judiciary

- 32) The Director, Directorate of Legal Metrology
- 33) The Director, Directorate of Mines & Geology
- 34) The Director, Directorate of Municipal Administration
- 35) The Director, Directorate of Museum
- 36) The Director, Directorate of Official language
- 37) The Director, Directorate of Ombudsman
- 38) The Director, Directorate of Panchayat
- 39) The Director, Directorate of Planning, Statistics and Evaluation & Chief Registrar of Births & Deaths
- 40) The DGP, Goa Policies Department
- 41) The Director, Captain of Port Administration
- 42) The Director, Directorate of Printing & Stationery
- 43) The Director, Directorate of Prisons
- 44) The Director, Directorate of Prosecution
- 45) The Director, Directorate of Public Grievances
- 46) The principal Chief Engineer, PWD
- 47) The Director, Directorate of River Navigation
- 48) The Director, Directorate of Rural Development of Department
- 49) The Director, Directorate of Sainik Welfare
- 50) The Director, Directorate of Science, Technology & Environment
- 51) The Director, Directorate of Settlement & Land Records
- 52) The Director, Directorate of Small Savings & Lotteries
- 53) The Director, Directorate of Social Welfare
- 54) The Director, Directorate of Sports & Youth Affairs
- 55) The Director, Directorate of Technical Education
- 56) The Director, Directorate of Tourism
- 57) The Director, Directorate of Town and Country Planning
- 58) The Director, Directorate of Transport
- 59) The Director, Directorate of Vigilance
- 60) The Director, Directorate of Water Resources
- 61) The Director, Directorate of Woman & Child Development
- 62) The President, North Goa Zilla Panchayat
- 63) The President, South Goa Zilla Panchayat

- 64) The Chairman, PDA
- 65) The Vice Chancellor, Goa University
- 66) The Dean, Goa Medical College, Bambolim
- 67) The Dean, Goa Dental College, Bambolim
- 68) The Director, All India Radio, Altinho
- 69) The Director, Doordarshan Kenra, Altinho
- 70) The Director, Pollution Control Board, Patto Panaji
- 71) Guard file
- 72) Office file
- 73) PHC/CHC/UHC/District Hospital/ Sub-District Hospital

All are requested to bring the content of this circular to all the subordinate offices under their control.