

No.O.11020/01/2018-HR Government of India Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (Department of Health Research)

2nd Floor, IRCS Building, Red Cross Road, New Delhi-110001 Dated the November, 2018

Subject: Monthly Summary to the Cabinet for the month of October, 2018-Reg.

The undersigned is directed to circulate herewith a copy of the unclassified portion of the **Monthly Summary for the Cabinet** pertaining to the Department of Health Research (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare) for the month of October, 2018.

(V.K. GAUBA)

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To

1. All members of Council of Ministers

2. Deputy Chairman, NITI Aayog, Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi.

3. The Principal information Officer, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi

Copy to:

The Director, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

Copy also forwarded for information to:

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2. The Chairman, UPSC, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi.

- 3. Secretary to the President of India (Rashtrapati Ke Sachiv), Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
- 4. Secretary to the Vice-President of India (Up-Rashtrapati ke Sachiv), Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.

5. PS to Prime Minister of India, South Block, New Delhi

6. Secretary, Inter-State Council Secretariat, MHA, Vigyan Bhawan Annexe,
New Delhi

Ministry of Health & family Welfare Department of Health Research

MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR THE CABINET FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 2018

An update on the principal activities and key initiatives undertaken by the Department of Health Research (DHR) during the month of October, 2018 is indicated below:-

Important policy decisions taken and major achievements during the month:

- a) Pilot project of MIP vaccination to leprosy contacts initiated in all 3 districts of Gujarat and vaccination to all contacts of leprosy patients ongoing successfully. Proposal for nation-wide expansion of MIP vaccination for leprosy cases and contacts has been sent to Central Leprosy Division (CLD) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- b) Undertaken following major outbreak investigations:-
 - (i) Investigation of Zika Virus Outbreak in Jaipur, Rajasthan: ICMR-NIV, Pune, provided complete support for Zika diagnosis to DHR/ICMR VRDL at SMS Medical College and more than 2000 samples were tested.
 - (ii) Investigation of Sudden Unexplained Illness and Death of Asiatic Lions in Gir Forest Area of Gujarat: Following death of 23 Asiatic lions in Gir forest of Gujarat State due to outbreak of unknown disease, ICMR-NIV obtained and tested 659 clinical samples from 205 sick lions sent by the Sakkarbaug Zoo, Junagadh. Use of currently available vaccine was recommended. This has helped the wild life experts of Gujarat to implement the critical steps required for containing the outbreak.
 - (iii) Investigation of Hepatitis B reported in Anjaw District of Arunachal Pradesh with the screening of 5500 individuals during State vaccination drive.
 - (iv) Outbreak Investigation of Dengue at Dimapur, Nagaland and its Neighbouring Areas
 - (v) Outbreak Investigation of Fever Cases at Haldhibari Area of Khowang, Dibrugarh.
 - (vi) Malaria Outbreak investigation in Tripura.
- c) NIV-Kerala Unit in Alappuzha started surveillance activities on measles and rubella.
- d) Published 40 research papers in the area of cancers, tuberculosis, malaria, reproductive health, fertility and pregnancy, visceral leishmaniasis, Nipah virus outbreak, etc.