**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/Commndt. 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.