

in private hospitals and nursing homes, and guidelines should be formulated within six months; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) and (b) In compliance of Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgement dated 29th January, 2016 in WP (C) No. 527/2011, this Ministry *vide* order No. Z.28015/15/2013-N dated 24th February, 2016 has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Director General of Health Services (DGHS) to look into the grievances raised in the Writ Petition in respect of nurses, who are working in private hospitals and nursing homes etc.

Measures to prevent transmission of Zika Virus

†619. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

SHRI P.L. PUNIA:

DR. CHANDAN MITRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Health Organisation (WHO) has issued warning about transmission of infection by a virus named Zika;

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government to tackle this problem, and the details thereof; and

(c) the provisions made regarding this infection that may spread from travelers coming from other countries and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) World Health Organization (WHO) has declared Zika virus disease to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) on 1st February, 2016.

(b) Guidelines have been issued and disseminated and also made available on the website of the Ministry. States where dengue transmission is on, namely Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and UT of Puducherry have been alerted. National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Delhi has been identified as the nodal agency for investigation of outbreak in any part of the country. National Centre for Disease Control, Delhi and National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune, have established the capacity to provide laboratory diagnosis of Zika virus disease in acute febrile stage. National Vector Borne

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Disease Control Programme has alerted all its field units for enhanced vector (Aedes mosquitoes) control. National AIDS Control Organization has issued advisory for blood banks and potential blood donors to prevent transmission of Zika virus infection by blood transfusion. A 24x7 control room cum Helpline has started functioning from Dte GHS. Public has been made aware about Zika virus disease through press releases issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The situation is being monitored regularly.

(c) Fifteen International Airports and nine major ports have displayed signages providing information for travellers on Zika virus disease and advising the travellers to report if they are returning from any of the affected countries and suffering from febrile illness. Immigration authorities at these Airports have been sensitized. Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Civil Aviation has issued instruction to all international airlines to follow the recommended aircraft disinsection guidelines. Vector control measures have been implemented at International Airports and Ports. In addition, travel advisory has been issued which stipulates deferring of non-essential travel to the affected countries and specific advisory to pregnant women or women who are trying to become pregnant to defer/cancel their travel to the affected areas. The advisory also stipulates that all travellers to the affected countries/areas should strictly follow individual protective measures, especially during day time, to prevent mosquito bites.

Persons infected by Zika Virus

620. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM:

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any persons infected by the Zika virus have been detected in any part of India, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has issued any advisory/guidelines to the State Governments regarding prevention of spreading and dealing the infection of the Zika virus, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) No.

(b) Guidelines on Zika virus disease have been issued and shared with the States and also made available on the website of the Ministry. The guidelines advise the States for enhanced Surveillance in the Community; at International Airports and