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Media alert from the Media Scanning & Verification Cell, IDSP-NCDC.

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5359	28.06.2019	28.06.2019	Hyderabad Telangana	The Times of India English Newspaper 28 th June, 2019/Page No.
Title:	Hyderabad stares at dengue sting, GHMC on alert, Telangana			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Hyderabad, SSU-Telangana			

The city might be staring at a 'dengue epidemic' this year and government authorities are preparing for the same. An internal order has been issued by the state health authorities asking all district authorities to keep a list of transfusion centres ready, in view of the large number of cases that are expected.

Dengue cases saw a rapid rise in 2018 as compared to 2017. Going by official statistics, a total of 6,362 cases were recorded across the state in 2018 as against 3,827 recorded in 2017. Of these, the largest chunk of cases were recorded in Hyderabad and neighbouring Rangareddy, Sangareddy and Medak, which partially fall in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) limits. Along with dengue, even chikungunya cases jumped to 1,063 in 2018 from just 58 in 2017.

The large number of cases in the city suggest a high number of breeding sites for mosquitoes. While GHMC authorities are currently carrying out a detailed survey of the sites and preparing an action plan, the sites identified as breeding grounds for

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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**

22-Sham Nath Marg, Delhi – 110 054

For more information please contact: Media Scanning & Verification Cell: - Phone (011)23946029

Email: - idsp-msc@nic.in, idsp-npo@nic.in

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एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

mosquitoes are construction sites, old and dilapidated buildings-especially state-run hostels, nurseries, open scrap godowns, lakes and ponds, say officials.

Both dengue and chikungunya are spread by the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito which can easily breed not just in the open but even inside houses and buildings. Mosquitoes that spread dengue (*Aedes aegypti*) breed in fresh water, which makes them far more dangerous than those that spread malaria.

"Since the dengue spreading mosquito (*Aedes aegypti*) breeds in and around houses by laying eggs on the inside of utensils, an egg laid last year can also spread the virus this year. Therefore, Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) in select places is being taken up this year, as many buildings like schools and municipal buildings are found to be breeding spots. This is especially true for districts with a high incidence of dengue," said a senior official from the state health department.

Minor engineering works (repair of pits and potholes) are also being planned.

"We will begin fumigation in schools and hostels from first week of July. Also, hatcheries are being prepared for gambusia fish which will be released in ponds and wells," said V Venkatesh, chief entomologist, GHMC.

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