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

Alert ID	Publication Date	Reporting Date	Place Name	News Source/Publication Language
5871	16.04.2020	16.04.2020	Thiruvananthapuram Kerala	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/thiruvananthapuram/dengue-fever-rears-its-head-again-in-the-district/articleshow/75166945.cms
Title:	Dengue fever rears its head again in the district Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Thiruvananthapuram, SSU- Kerala			

Though the district has managed to keep Covid-19 cases under check, dengue cases are posing fresh challenge for health wing and local bodies. The district reported the second dengue death in the year on April 12. A 78-year-old woman hailing from Manikkal is the deceased.

She had earlier been taken to Kanyakulangara PHC and from there she was taken to a private hospital. Later she was admitted to Covid ICU at Medical College where her samples were tested for Covid-19 and dengue. Samples turned negative for Covid-19, however, she was tested positive for dengue.

Later she returned home but again showed signs of wheezing and she died on the way to Medical College Hospital. The date of death was recorded as April 12. In January, a person from Tamilnadu had died at Kattakada of dengue.

Between March and April, 44 cases of dengue have been reported in the district of which majority of cases have been reported within corporation limits. Vellanad,

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Disclaimer:- This is a media alert subject to verification.

**Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control,
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Vembayam, Vattapara, Manikkal, Perumkadavila and Karakulam are the rural areas from where dengue cases have been reported between March and April.

Dengue cases have been reported from around 29 corporation wards during the same period, including city wards like Kowdiar, Vazhuthacaud, Palayam, Karamana, Valiyasala, Muttathara, Nalachira, Vanchiyur, Fort, Pattoor, Medical College, Peroorkada, Ambalamukku and Kunnukuzhi.

Beemapally ward alone reported three cases on March 3 and repeated cases have emerged from Kowdiar and Peroorkada. Apart from Beemapally, cases have been reported from other coastal wards like Vizhinjam and Valiyathura.

The officials with integrated disease surveillance programme have visited Manikkal and initiated disease control protocol in the area. The health wing of the city corporation, which is already overburdened with tasks related to Covid-19 management, has been wary of the rise in number of dengue cases within corporation wards.

Efforts are underway to deploy the workforce currently engaged in multiple tasks associated with Covid-19 management to combat the spread of dengue. The local self-government department has already warned local bodies to take action against spread of mosquito-borne diseases.

Six chikungunya cases were also reported from Medical College, Manacaud, Poonthura, Chettivilakom, Vallakadavu and Attukal areas in March.

Since 2017, the number of dengue cases has been effectively controlled in the district. In 2017, the district reported 8,955 cases and 13 deaths which came down to 311 cases and two deaths in 2018. However, the number rose slightly in 2019 with 1,100 cases and four deaths.

In 2017, when the number of dengue cases rose alarmingly in the city, the corporation had constituted a 24-hour special dengue cell at Kazhakkootam zonal office. The cell monitored breeding spots of mosquitoes by arranging communication with residents. Services like anti-mosquito spraying, fogging, power spraying, growing guppy fishes in shallow wells and stagnant water, source-level eradication, services of Asha workers, anganwadi workers and students of nursing colleges were also ensured through the dengue cell. A leptospirosis death has also been reported from Varkala, health officials said.

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