

Regarding reported cases of Nipah in Kerala and supply of Monoclonal Antibodies to the State

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Thank you, Chairperson Madam.

It is deeply concerning to note that out of the total 99 Nipah cases reported in more than two decades, that is, between 2001 and 2023, in India, Kerala has accounted for 28 per cent of the total confirmed Nipah cases in the country, including the latest case in Kozhikode. This situation along with a case fatality rate in the first outbreak peaking at 89.4 per cent with 17 deaths out of 19 lab-confirmed cases in Kozhikode and Malappuram is a major cause for concern as the second wave is rising and the State Government is not serious.

In this situation, I would urge the Government to send a Central Government expert team and render all assistance to the State of Kerala and ensure immediate help for the same. I would further demand the Government to provide compensation for the victim's family which lost a young life to the Nipah outbreak. The Union Government must ensure supply of monoclonal antibodies to the State, and it must further take steps in providing urgent delivery of sample results from the Pune Virology Lab as well. Thank you.