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Title: Need to provide medical and financial assistance to the dengue infected regions of Tamil Nadu and other parts of the country.

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU (TIRUNELVELI): There are about 3,500 species of mosquitoes found throughout the world. They spread number of diseases affecting millions of people every year. Mosquito is a silent killer and some of the diseases caused by mosquito bite are fatal. Malaria, Chickengunya, Yellow Fever, Encephalitis and particularly Dengue continue to take massive toll in India in the last few years.

Dengue is becoming one of the major public health concerns in the tropical and sub-tropical countries. So much so that over 40% of the world's population (2.5 billion) is at risk from dengue- mostly kids. WHO says 50-100 million infections occur every year across the globe and it costs India almost \$29.3 million a year. However, majority of them do not even exhibit symptoms. Depending on several factors, including age, dengue fever can progress to severe forms. Mortality is quite high in the case of dengue hemorrhagic fever.

In India, Dengue infected/ death cases were steadily rising in the last few years as under :-

In 2009, it was 15535/96; in 2010 – 28292/10; in 2011 – 19000/180. During this year upto 5 November, Tamil Nadu has the most number of cases, nearly 8,500 according to the National Vector Borne Disease Control provisional data. West Bengal is second with about 5,700 cases. Tamil Nadu had the most number of cases in 2007 and 2011 too. It recorded the most number (54) of deaths in 2012. The National Capital, Delhi is also not behind. It has reported 1,427 including 4 deaths till 11 November 2012.

This is a serious issue and the steps should be taken on war-footing to control the spread of this disease. Keeping in view of the above, I humbly urge

upon the Union Government to render all necessary medical and other financial assistance to the Dengue infected States more particularly for the southern districts of Tamil Nadu to control this disease and to protect the lives of common man.