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சுவசிரிபாய

SUWASIRIPAYA

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சுகாதார அமைச்சு  
Ministry of Health

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எனது இல ) NDCU/OBR/SMCC/92/2024  
My No. )

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உமது இல )  
Your No. : )

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திகதி ) 04 01.2024  
Date : )

08 JAN 2024  
04 JAN 2024  
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Health Information

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All Provincial Directors of Health Services  
Regional Directors of Health Services - Colombo, Gampaha, Kalutara, Kandy, Matale, Galle, Jaffna,  
Mannar, Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Kurunegala, Puttalam, Badulla, Rathnapura and Kegalle  
Director - NIHS  
Chief Medical Officer of Health - CMC

**Special Mosquito Control Week: 07<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

As you may already be aware, more than 88,000 dengue cases were reported island-wide for the year 2023 with major local outbreaks of dengue fever in several districts. Recent entomological survey data underscores the gravity of the issue, confirming a significant surge in positive and potential dengue mosquito breeding places within various localities.

With the onset of the North-East monsoon rains, there has been a notable increase in the number of dengue patients as experienced in the past. Therefore, it is imperative that we need to intensify our efforts for an integrated vector control including source reduction activities and community engagement during this monsoon season. By implementing such activities, we can proactively address the escalating risk and avert a potential massive dengue outbreak.

As such, at the meeting held at Presidential Secretariat on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024, an island wide Special Mosquito Control Week was declared from 7<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023. On Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> January, irrespective of current disease status in their areas, all Medical Officers of Health (MOH) and their staff, motivating and engaging the general public and volunteer organizations, shall conduct programmes for search and destroy of mosquito breeding places in households and their environment. It should be followed with the special mosquito control programme in selected 70 MOH areas with high dengue risk (high-risk areas). The programme will be conducted in 35 MOH areas from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 while in the other 35 MOH areas, the programme will be from 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> January 2024 (Please refer to Annex 1 for details). During the programme, all high-risk Grama Niladhari (GN) divisions of each MOH area should be covered.

Out of the allocated three days, the first two days shall be dedicated to inspect non-residential high risk premises, such as government and private institutes, factories, schools, religious places, construction sites etc. The third day is designated for the inspection of residential houses.

- Day 1- Schools, Religious places etc.
- Day 2-Government and Private institutions, Factories, Construction sites etc.
- Day 3- Residential houses

It is expected to inspect all the said premises of high-risk GN divisions in MOH areas by mobilizing teams consisting of Health Personnel, Police, Tri-forces and volunteers. **Health staff and resources in low-risk MOH areas could be mobilized to high-risk areas based on the need and feasibility.**

For each high risk MOH area, funds will be provided as per Annex II for refreshments, stationery and hiring of vehicles for the duration of the control campaign. Furthermore, funds will be provided to the Regional Epidemiologist and other supervisory staff at the RDHS for supervisory visits to the MOH areas where special mosquito control programme is conducting.

It is advisable to conduct coordination meetings at the district level and planning meetings at divisional levels (MOH, Divisional Secretary, Municipal Commissioner, local civil society leaders, etc) in advance. To facilitate divisional level programmes, officers from the Police will liaise with health authorities.

It is essential to conduct independent monitoring of field activities by the Regional Epidemiologist and other appropriate supervisory officers at RDHS Office to ensure the smooth execution of this important activity. In addition, pre and post entomological surveys conducted in the at-risk localities will provide objective evidence of the effectiveness of the mosquito control campaign. (Annexure 2: Instruction sheet is attached herewith). Please inform all relevant Medical Officers of Health, Regional Filariasis Officer/ Regional Malaria Officer/ Entomologists in this regard.

At the end of the day, all relevant Medical Officers of Health, through the Regional Epidemiologist and Regional Director of Health Services should submit a return of daily activities to the National Dengue Control Unit. In addition, a district debriefing meeting must be conducted at the end of each day to monitor the progress.

Please instruct the Regional Epidemiologists to send the duly completed attached format (Annexure 3: Format of the meeting points and the names of coordinators according to the MOH areas) which is communicated via e-mail to them, by e-mail on or before **4<sup>th</sup> January 2024** to NDCU. Further clarifications can be obtained from the National Dengue Control Unit, Tel: 0112-2368416, E-mail: [ndcu2010@yahoo.com](mailto:ndcu2010@yahoo.com).

Your early attention in this regard is highly appreciated.



**Dr P G Mahipala**  
**Secretary**

**Dr. P. G. Mahipala**  
Secretary  
Ministry of Health  
"Suwasiripaya"  
385, Rev. Baddegama Wimalawansa Thero Mawatha,  
Colombo 10, Sri Lanka.

Copy:

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2. State Minister of Health (for information)
3. Chief of Staff of Presidential Secretariat
4. Additional Secretary- Public Health Services
5. Director General of Health Services
6. Deputy Director General (Public Health Services) 1
7. Chief Epidemiologist
8. Directors- Dengue, Filariasis, Malaria Control Campaigns
9. All Provincial and District CCPs
10. All Regional Epidemiologists

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திகதி ) 04.01.2024  
Date )

Chief of Defence Staff

Block No 05, BMICH

Colombo 07

**Special Mosquito Control Week: 07<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

This is further to the matters discussed at the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024 at the Presidential Secretariat and the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 at the Ministry of Health.

As you may already be aware, more than 88,000 dengue cases were reported island-wide in the year 2023 with major local outbreaks of dengue fever in several districts. Recent entomological survey data underscores the gravity of the issue, confirming a significant surge in positive and potential dengue mosquito breeding places within various localities.

With the onset of the North-East monsoon rains, there has been a notable increase in the number of dengue patients as experienced in the past. Therefore, it is imperative that we need to intensify our efforts in an integrated vector management including source reduction activities and community engagement during this monsoon season. By implementing the above suggested activities, we can proactively address the escalating risk and avert a potential massive dengue outbreak.

As such, an island wide Special Mosquito Control Week will be launched on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Irrespective of current disease status in their areas, all Medical Officers of Health and their staff motivating and engaging the general public and volunteer organizations, will conduct programmes for search and destroy of mosquito breeding places in households and their environment. The above activity on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> January will follow with the special mosquito control programme in 70 Medical Officer of Health (MOH) areas with high dengue risk (high-risk areas). The programme will be conducted in 35 MOH areas from 08<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 while in other 35 MOH areas the programme will be from 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> January 2024 (Please refer to the Annex 1 for details). During the programme, all high-risk Grama Niladhari (GN) divisions of each MOH area will be covered.

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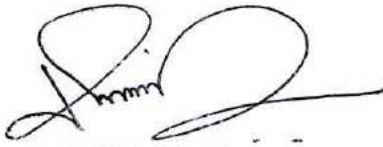
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I expect your kind corporation to make this event successful. The following activities are suggested for your kind attention.

1. Make aware of all relevant units regarding the Special Mosquito Control Week.
2. Appoint supervising officers at district and MOH levels and send the list with contact details to respective Regional Director of Health Services with a copy to the National Dengue Control Unit (NDCU).
3. Provide necessary support in providing Tri-forces personnel to join the health teams for inspection of premises in high-risk localities. Detailed action plans for each MOH area will be sent ASAP.
4. Conduct mosquito control campaigns within the premises of Tri-forces camps during this period. Instruct the occupants/staff to remove all the possible mosquito breeding places from the premises under their purview.
5. Appoint coordinating officers to participate in the operation room held at National Dengue Control Unit

Your cooperation in this matter of national importance is greatly appreciated.



**Dr P G Mahipala**  
Secretary

**Dr. P. G. Mahipala**  
Secretary

Ministry of Health  
"Suwasiripaya"

385, Rev. Baddegama Wimalawansa Thero Mawatha,  
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## සෞඛ්‍ය අමාත්‍යාංශය சுகாதார அமைச்சு Ministry of Health

Military Liaison Officer  
Ministry of Defence  
Defence Headquarters Complex  
Sri jayawardanepura, Kotte

### **Special Mosquito Control Week: 07<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

As you may already be aware, more than 88,000 dengue cases were reported island-wide in the year 2023 with major local outbreaks of dengue fever in several districts. Recent entomological survey data underscores the gravity of the issue, confirming a significant surge in positive and potential dengue mosquito breeding places within various localities.

With the onset of the North-East monsoon rains, there has been a notable increase in the number of dengue patients as experienced in the past. Therefore, it is imperative that we need to intensify our efforts in an integrated vector management including source reduction activities and community engagement during this monsoon season. By implementing the above suggested activities, we can proactively address the escalating risk and avert a potential massive dengue outbreak.

As such, at the meeting held at Presidential Secretariat on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024, an island wide Special Mosquito Control Week was declared from 7<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023. On Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> January, irrespective of current disease status in their areas, all Medical Officers of Health (MOH) and their staff motivating and engaging the general public and volunteer organizations, will conduct programmes for search and destroy of mosquito breeding places in households and their environment. It will be followed with a special mosquito control programme in 70 MOH areas with high dengue risk (high-risk areas). The programme will be conducted in 35 MOH areas from 08<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 while in other 35 MOH areas the programme will be from 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> January 2024 (Please refer to the Annex 1 for details). During the programme, all high-risk Grama Niladhari (GN) divisions of each MOH area will be covered.

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It is expected to inspect all the said premises in high-risk GN divisions in MOH areas by mobilizing teams consisting of health staff, the Police, Tri-forces and volunteers.

I expect your kind corporation to make this event successful. The following activities are suggested for your kind attention.

1. Make aware of all relevant units regarding Special Mosquito Control Week.
2. Appoint supervising officers at district and MOH levels and send the list with contact details to respective Regional Director of Health Services with a copy to the National Dengue Control Unit (NDCU).
3. Provide necessary support in providing Tri-forces personnel to join the health teams for inspection of premises in high-risk localities. Detailed action plans for each MOH area will be sent ASAP.
4. Conduct mosquito control campaigns within the premises of Tri-forces camps during this period. Instruct the occupants/staff to remove all the possible mosquito breeding places from the premises under their purview.
5. Appoint coordinating officer/s to participate in the operation room functions

Your cooperation in this matter of national importance is greatly appreciated.

  
**Dr P G Mahipala**  
Secretary

**Dr P. G. Mahipala**  
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Ministry of Health  
"Suvvasiripaya"  
385, Rev. @attdegama Wimalawansa Thero Mawatha,  
Colombo 10, Sri Lanka.

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Ministry of Health

Inspector General of Police,  
Police Head Quarters,  
Colombo

**Special Mosquito Control Week: 07<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

This is further to the matters discussed at the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024 at the Presidential Secretariat and the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 at the Ministry of Health. I greatly appreciate your expression for generous support to control currently undergoing dengue outbreak including the planned special mosquito control week from 7<sup>th</sup> January to 13<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

As you are already aware, more than 88,000 dengue cases were reported island-wide in the year 2023 with major local outbreaks of dengue fever in several districts. Recent entomological survey data underscores the gravity of the issue, confirming a significant surge in positive and potential dengue mosquito breeding places within various localities.

With the onset of the North-East monsoon rains, there has been a notable increase in the number of dengue patients as experienced in the past. Therefore, it is imperative that we need to intensify our efforts in an integrated vector management including source reduction activities and community engagement during this monsoon season. By implementing the above suggested activities, we can proactively address the escalating risk and avert a potential massive dengue outbreak.

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It is expected to inspect all the said premises in high-risk GN divisions in MOH areas by mobilizing teams consisting of health staff, the Police, Tri-forces and volunteers.

I expect your kind corporation to make this event successful. The following activities are suggested for your kind attention.

1. Make aware of all relevant units regarding the Special Mosquito Control Week.
2. Inform Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) of the each area to liaise with the Regional Director of Health Services (RDHS) to formulate the District Dengue Control Steering Committee. (Please refer to Annex 2 for contact details of all RDHS and Regional Epidemiologists).
3. Appoint supervising officers at district and MOH levels and send the list with contact details to respective Regional Director of Health Services with a copy to the National Dengue Control Unit (NDCU).
4. Mobilize personnel from the Environment Police or from other units to attend Special Mosquito Control Programme as team members who will visit households and other premises during the Special Mosquito Control Week.
5. Conduct mosquito control campaigns within Police Stations, hostels, quarters and other places owned by the Department of Police. Instruct the occupants/staff to remove all the possible mosquito breeding places from the premises under their purview.
6. Appoint a coordinating officer/s to participate in the dengue control Operations Room activities.

Your cooperation in this matter of national importance is greatly appreciated.

  
**Dr P G Mahipala**  
**Secretary**

**Dr. P. G. Mahipala**  
**Secretary**  
**Ministry of Health**  
**"Suwasiripaya"**  
**385, Rev. Baddegama Wimalawansa Thero Mawatha,**  
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Secretary  
Ministry of Defence  
Colombo 01

**Special Mosquito Control Week: 07<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

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Subsequently, a meeting chaired by me with the participation of the Inspector General of Police, senior staff officers representing the Chief of Defense Staff and Sri Lanka Navy, and Director General of Health Services and other Ministry of Health officials was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 to plan activities to be conducted during the Special Mosquito Control Week and during the month January 2024.

Following are the areas discussed and finalized.

1. To have a 24-hour operational room at the Disaster Management Unit of the Ministry of Health, for dengue outbreak management. It will have a hotline for public access and will serve as the National level operation center during the special mosquito control campaign.
2. To initiate the campaign on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024 from Colombo Municipal Council (CMC) area with a wider media coverage.
3. To conduct the Special Mosquito Control Campaign (SMCC) in 70 identified high risk Medifical Officer of Health (MOH) areas. A three-day SMCC will be conducted in each MOH area with the participation of health staff, Tri-forces, Police and volunteers. At least ten teams will be deployed in each identified MOH area, and each team would consist of a member of the health staff, one officer from the Tri-forces and a member from the Police.
4. To activate the Dengue Control District Committees in all 25 districts.
5. To increase awareness of the public through dengue alerts and SMS services, in addition to media regarding the SMCC.

While appreciating the support rendered by the Tri-forces during previous mosquito control campaigns, the Ministry of Health expects your generous support to make this activity successful.



**Dr P G Mahipala**  
Secretary

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