

Title : Need to review the functioning of 'virology Institute' at Alapuzha, Kerala in view to steep increase in number of cases of communicable diseases.

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House to the fact that the Institute of Virology and Infection Diseases, an autonomous organisation located at Alappuzha District in Kerala, is the only one of its kind in the entire South India. The Institute was found with the objective of detection of communicable diseases and also to make early warning system of mosquito-borne diseases.

There is found to be an alarming increase in the cases of Dengu fever, Japnese Encephalitis, Hepatitis Leptospirosis etc., in the State of Kerala and also in the neighbouring States. The peculiar geographical positions with long-stretch of sea coasts and the climatic conditions make the people living in this part of the country more vulnerable to such communicable diseases.

The services of this Institute are not confined to Kerala State alone as their services are extended to other institutions and to the people in the neighbouring States also. But due to financial constraints, the much required enhancement of facilities and upgradation of scientific instruments and equipment in this field is not being undertaken from time to time.

In this situation, I would request the Government to provide adequate funds for equipping the Institute with modern instruments and to further develop infrastructure considering its high importance and also to develop this institute into a training Institute. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Ashok Pradhan – not present;

Dr. Rajesh Mishra – not present.