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Title: Need to announce a Central Health Package for eradication of waterborne and vector borne diseases in Kerala particularly in Alappuzha district.

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): I would like to raise a serious issue concerning Alappuzha district in the State of Kerala. Alappuzha has been affected by various kinds of water-borne and vector borne diseases. The situation is getting serious year after year. Thousands of people are affected by these water-borne and vector borne diseases. Many of them die every year. Doctors say that it is very difficult to detect the exact cause of the diseases since the symptoms are similar. Since 2006, the Kerala state, especially Alappuzha, has been witnessing the spread of epidemics and during the last five-year period, around 15 Central teams have visited the State to control these communicable diseases. Yet no remedy appears to be in sight. According to Directorate of Health Service (DHS), from 2006 to 2010, around 68 Japanese Encephalitis 1,36,948 Chikunguinea, 10,206, malaria and 6,431 dengue cases have been reported. Since the year 2006, various medical expert teams like NICD, ICMR, CRME, NIV and National Vector Born Diseases Control Programme (NVBDCP) have tried to control the waterborne and vector borne diseases but have yet not been able to suggest any remedial measures. According to health experts, Kuttanad is still a cholera prone district.

The State Government of Kerala on its part, has sanctioned Rs. 200 crore for drinking water supply scheme. But this is not enough. The Union Government should chalk out a Central Health Package exclusively for Alappuzha district in order to fight outbreak of these diseases which are causing havoc to the health and lives of the people of this district. I request the Union Government to announce a Central Health Package exclusively for Alappuzha district.