PRESS RELEASE

TAMIL NADU HEALTH DEPARTMENT HOLDS A REVIEW MEETING ON MONKEY POX

The Department of Health and Family Welfare reviewed the preparedness of the health facilities in the State in view of World Health Organisation declaring Monkey Pox a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC).

Tmt. Supriya Sahu, Additional Chief Secretary to Government, discussed the status of surveillance, need for isolation and the Standard Operating Protocol for treating the disease. The Government of India has designated the King Institute at Chennai as the Approved/Identified Centre for testing of Monkey Pox. However, the State has not reported any case of Monkey Pox so far.

The Health Department officials were asked to enhance the surveillance mechanism and conduct training programme for Doctors and Para Medics. The Department decided to keep a strict vigil on the spread of the disease and continue to monitor the situation. The Department is keeping a close connect with the Ministry of Health, Government of India through the National Centre for Disease Control and has been having regular meetings in this regard.

Tmt. Shilpa Prabhakar Satish, Mission Director, National Health Mission, Mr. M.Arvind, Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation Limited, Dr. A.Arun Thamburaj, Project Director, Tamil Nadu Health System Reforms Project, Tmt. R.Seetha Lakshmi, Project Director, Tamil Nadu State Aids Control Society, Tmt. M.Vijayalakshmi, Commissioner, Indian Medicine and Homeopathy, Tmt. V.Kalaiarasi, Special Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department, Dr. T.S.Selvavinayagam, Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Dr. J.Sangumani, Director of Medical Education and Research, Dr. J.Rajamoorthy, Director of Medical and Rural Health Services and other higher officials of the Health and Family Welfare Department participated in the meeting.

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