



Campaign to Eradicate Malaria

Why in News?

The Uttar Pradesh government has launched an intensified campaign to eradicate [Malaria](#) from the state by 2027.

- This initiative involves thorough investigation and complete treatment of every malaria case.

Key Points

- **June** is **Anti-Malaria Month** under the [National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme](#), with 771 malaria cases reported in the state this year.
 - Efforts include improved **case reporting, management, and increased epidemiological and entomological investigations**, as well as accelerated vector control measures.
- According to the officials, health workers are conducting **extensive surveys and tests, and community education** on malaria prevention and symptoms is ongoing.
- With the [monsoon expected in late June](#), a **critical period for mosquito-borne diseases**, extensive activities are planned to prevent malaria.
 - These include [insecticide](#) spraying and fogging, and community awareness seminars.

Malaria

- Malaria is a life-threatening mosquito borne blood disease caused by [plasmodium parasites](#).
 - There are **5 Plasmodium parasite species** that cause malaria in humans and 2 of these species [P. falciparum](#) and [P. vivax](#) pose the greatest threat.
- Malaria is predominantly found in the [tropical and subtropical areas](#) of **Africa, South America** as well as **Asia**.
- Malaria is spread by the bite of an infected [female Anopheles mosquito](#).
 - The **mosquito becomes infected after biting an infected person**. The malaria parasites then enter the bloodstream of the next person the mosquito bites. The parasites travel to the **liver**, mature, and then infect [red blood cells](#).
- Symptoms of malaria include fever and **flu-like illness**, including **shaking chills, headache, muscle aches, and tiredness**. Notably, **malaria is both preventable and curable**.

National Vector-Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP)

- NVBDCP is the **central nodal agency** for prevention and control of six vector borne diseases i.e. **Malaria, Dengue, Lymphatic Filariasis, Kala-azar, Japanese Encephalitis** and [Chikungunya](#) in India. It works under the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**.

