

Short Communication



## STATUS OF MALARIA IN THE UNION TERRITORY (U.T.) OF LADAKH DURING 2024

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### Abstract

**Background:** There is very little literature available on the status of Malaria in the U.T. of Ladakh. Hence the preparation of this document.

**Objectives:** To find out the parameters of Malaria in the U.T. of Ladakh till as recently as possible.

**Methods:** By studying the documents prepared by the National Center for Vector Borne Diseases Control (NCVBDC).

**Results:** It is seen that there were 9 cases of Malaria in the U.T. of Ladakh during 2024 (up to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024).

**Conclusions:** The U.T. of Ladakh is very close to achieving Malaria-elimination goals.

**Keywords:** Malaria, Ladakh, NCVBDC, WHO.

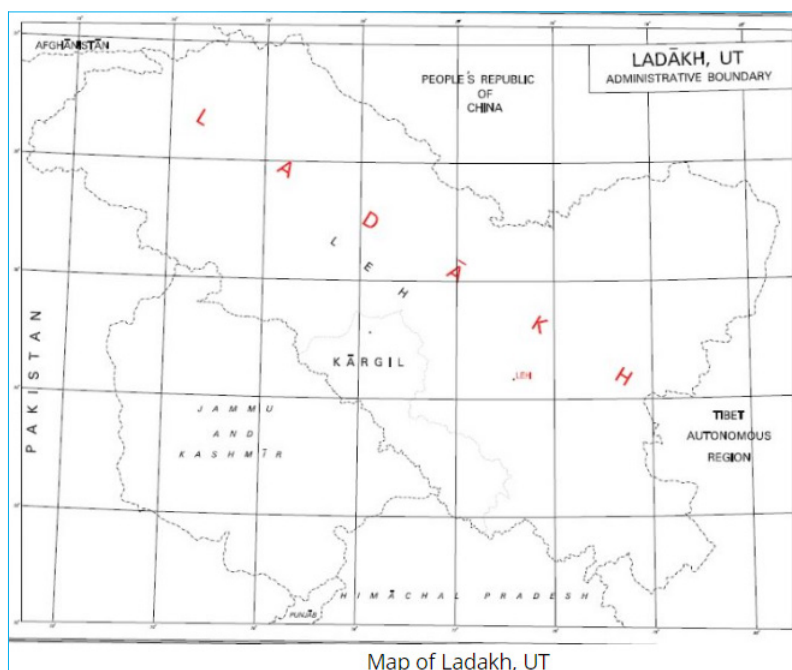


Figure 1: Map of the U.T. of Ladakh [Source: (1)]

**Table 1: Number of Malaria Cases in the U.T. of Ladakh, 2020 to 2024**

Union Territory	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (Up to 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2024)
	Ladakh	0	0	2	10

[Sources:(2)]

### 1. Introduction

The U.T. of Ladakh lies in the northern part of India. It is bounded by Afghanistan in the north-west, People’s Republic of China in the north, the Tibet Autonomous Region in the east, the U.T. of Jammu and Kashmir in the west and the state of Himachal Pradesh in the south.

### 2. Material & Methods

The study design included an analysis of documents available on the website of the NCVBDC.

### 3. Results

According to the most recent data available on the NCVBDC website, the number of Malaria cases in the U.T. of Ladakh during 2024 (up to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024) was 9[2]. It’s comparison with the number of cases from previous years can be seen from the following table.

It is seen that the number of cases was zero in 2021 but then increased gradually to 2 during the following year and has now increased to 9 in 2024 (up to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024).

### 4. Discussion

Beginning in 2022, there has been an increase in the number of Malaria cases in the U.T. of Ladakh.

In 2016, the Government of India adopted a framework for Malaria Elimination in India covering the period 2016 – 2030[3]. This was based on the Global Technical Strategy for Malaria of the World Health Organization (WHO) covering the period 2016 – 2030 which was adopted in 2015 and updated in 2021[4].

It is envisaged to reach zero Malaria cases by 2027 and then wait for three years before which WHO can grant Malaria-free status certification to India. It

is already the beginning of 2025 and India is about to cross the three-fourth mark of the period from 2016 to 2027.

### 5. Conclusion

Although the U.T. of Ladakh did not reach zero Malaria cases in 2022, it did reach a figure of 2 cases during that year. Therefore, it is a good candidate for being among the first few administrative jurisdictions in the country close to being able to achieve Malaria elimination goals.

### 6. Acknowledgements: NCVBDC

### 7. Conflict of Interest: None

### 8. References

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