

# Dengue cases double in 3 years, malaria rises 71%

## City Laid Low As Cholera Too Rears Its Head

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**Mumbai:** The city is fast becoming a hotbed for ailments and diseases. From dengue to malaria and even cholera, sensitive diseases are on the rise, putting at risk the lives of nearly 1.24 crore Mumbaikars.

Official data from civic-

### ► 'Many red flags', P 2

run hospitals alone show a 176% rise in dengue cases in 2011-12, while the number of those affected by malaria saw a 71% increase from

## SICK MUMBAI

Huge increase in incidence of sensitive diseases in last 3 years



Diseases	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Dengue	27%	106%	176% (1,879)
Cholera	29%	146%	85% (178)
Malaria	71%	236%	71% (39,828)
Diarrhoea	43%	55%	23% (99,839)

**Base: 2008-09=100%**

Figures in parentheses are the number of cases reported from BMC-run hospitals. But Praja claims the numbers are much higher as nearly 75% of Mumbaikars get treated in private hospitals

2008-09. Cholera cases—178, a rise of 85%—add to the medical nightmare that's been officially recorded. While experts are surprised by the cholera cases, BMC officials admit that it has been kept under wraps

as its mere occurrence could attract international travel sanctions. Cholera is highly infectious and can spread within the community in a few hours.

What is even more worrying is that these figures

could just be the tip of the iceberg as it does not take into account people getting treated at private hospitals and clinics, according to Praja Foundation that surveyed around 15,000 households in the city.