

# Use PPEs to protect against Ebola virus, advise experts

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With the spread of deadly 'Ebola' virus, the scientists at the Indian Institute of Scientific Education and Research (IISER), have appealed to the people not to get panicky and use Personal Protection Equipments (PPEs) to protect themselves from the carriers of the virus.

Dr Arunika Mukhopadhyay, a senior scientist at the IISER, said that though it was

a matter of concern at which rate the virus was spreading, but there was no need to panic as there was no case reported in India yet.

While talking about the vaccine for the virus, Dr Mukhopadhyay said that there was no vaccine in the world for curing the virus but a medicine namely ZMapp has been developed in USA by scientists which was the only medicine available for curing the virus so far.

She also added that

the medicine had not been tested on humans and it had conducted some trials only on monkeys.

"There is no vaccine, ZMapp is developed by USA scientists but it was only tested on monkeys," added she.

Talking about the carriers of the virus, Dr Mukhopadhyay said that fruit, bats, pigs and monkeys are the carriers of the virus and the virus is mainly contracted through body fluids but the rate at which the

virus was spreading, now it can be said that the virus has become air-borne.

## SAFEGUARDS FROM VIRUS

Dr Mukhopadhyay said that people should use following precautions to protect themselves from contracting the virus:

- ❑ Cover the whole body while travelling. Eg Use goggles to cover eyes and gloves to cover hands.
- ❑ Try to take seriously heavy fever and vomiting.

## WHAT IS THE VIRUS?

Dr Mukhopadhyay said that Ebola virus' name was derived from a river in Congo and the virus first came to light in 1976 in some African countries and then it again spread in 1979 but it went missing for 15 years and again resurfaced late 90s.

## SYMPTOMS OF AFFECTED PERSON

High fever, rashes, headache, joint pain, red eyes and weakness in the body.

