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Corporation's software for malaria management gets a boost

The Mangalore City Corporation's proposal of having a dedicated software to assist in malaria management has received a boost   with a society coming forward to bear the production cost. At the same   time, three IT companies have agreed to provide technical and logistical   support, said Mayor Mahabala Marla.

While Mangalore   Medical Relief Society has come forward to sponsor the production cost,   Infosys, I-Point and Code Craft Technologies Pvt. Ltd. have agreed to   provide the technical and logistical support, the Mayor said.

Placing   an order for the development of software otherwise would have cost the   civic body about Rs. 20 lakh. Now its production might cost Rs. 5 lakh,   which would be borne by the society.

An official in charge of malaria management at the civic body said the IT companies would provide office space, computers and training for programmers. The society would bear the salary of team members and other funds. It might take about five months to develop software.

Explaining how software would assist in malaria management, the official said that when malaria positive cases were reported – from hospitals, laboratories or from people – the case details would be uploaded to the computer using the software. Multipurpose workers of the civic body would visit the spot with a tablet equipped with GPS (global positioning system) technology. They would upload the photographs of nearby breeding places as well as the spot from where the cases reported. The software would display a list of measures to be taken and a map of area from where it reported. Accordingly, medical facilities would be arranged and steps to contain breeding of mosquitoes would be taken.

The software would maintain a database of cases and measures taken step by step. If the measures are not initiated it would also be displayed. Officials such as the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioners and elected representatives of the corporation such as Mayor, standing committee heads would have access to the software.

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The software   would get public interface through social media such as Facebook. The   official said post-software management and maintenance might cost the   MCC Rs. 15 lakh for two years.

Proposal gets financial and technical support