



सत्यमेव जयते
Government of India



Media Scanning & Verification Cell

Media alert from the Media Scanning & Verification Cell, IDSP-NCDC.



Alert ID	Publication Date	Reporting Date	Place Name	News Source/Publication Language
3797	19/11/2016	20/12/2016	Kerala Ernakulam	www.indiatoday.intoday.in/English http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/hepatitis-outbreak-ernakulam-nellikuzhi-spices-village/1/838098.html
Title:	303 suspected cases, 3 deaths: Is a new restaurant behind Hepatitis A outbreak in Kerala village?			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Ernakulam, SSU- Kerala			

More than 300 people in Nellikuzhi panchayat in Kerala's Ernakulam district are suspected to have been Hepatitis A infected. Is a newly opened restaurant responsible for this?

An outbreak of Hepatitis A was reported on November 25 from Nellikuzhi panchayat, situated around 50 kilometres from the city, in Kerala's Ernakulam district.

As on Sunday, the panchayat had over 303 suspected cases of Hepatitis A, eight of which were confirmed. Three people died due to the disease. The district medical team is on a drive to contain the spread of a waterborne Hepatitis outbreak. Ever since the outbreak was reported, the district administration is on a drive to go door to door to evaluate the situation. Although the spread of the disease is said to be under control, authorities fear the outbreak could be seen in neighboring panchayats too.

"The cause of the outbreak is known to be from eating from a restaurant there. The restaurant has good facilities, but one staff member was Hepatitis infected. Perhaps they did not notice it. He cooked and served food at the hotel through which it spread to other staff and those who ate from there," said Dr NK Kuttappan, District Medical Officer. "Not only people from this panchayat but many from outside too have eaten from here including many students as there are many educational institutions around it," he said.

36 eateries in the panchayat have been inspected so far of which 16 have been shut down. The outbreak was reported a month after the restaurant was first opened on October 24. The restaurant had also given free welcome drinks to people around on its inaugural day.

Save Water- Save Life, Save a tree- Don't print unless it's really necessary!

Disclaimer:- This is a media alert subject to verification.

**Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control,
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