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

Alert ID	Publication Date	Reporting Date	Place Name	News Source/Publication Language
4526	14.02.2018	15.02.2018	Barwani Madhya Pradesh	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/indore/barwani-food-poisoning-feb-13-350-devotees-fall-ill-from-contaminated-prasad/articleshow/62907305.cms
Title:	Over 400 devotees ill after eating contaminated prasad in district Barwani, Madhya Pradesh			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Barwani, SSU-Madhya Pradesh			

Contaminated 'prasad' distributed by an ashram has made hundreds of devotees severely ill on the occasion of Shivratri near Peepri village under Anjad police station limits of the district on Tuesday. More than 350 devotees were admitted to district and two private hospitals in the district headquarters, while 30 others were being undergoing treatment at Anjad itself after eating the prasad.

Several teams of doctors and ambulances arrived at the spot, some 15 kilometre away from Barwani, to ferry victims away for treatment. "As many as 1000 devotees had khichdi and halwa at the bhandara of Nakhoon Wale Baba Ashram located on the banks of Narmada river near Dahi Baida. They started vomiting after taking the prasad due to food poisoning," Barwani chief medical and health officer Dr VB Jain told TOI. "We raced doctors and other medical support to the village as soon as it was told of the poisoning outbreak," said Jain adding that the victims were admitted at Sai Hospital and Mahamrityunjaya Hospital, besides the district hospital.

The drug inspector's initial report revealed that devotees were served a sweet dish made up of potatoes and mawa 40 hours ago. It might be a reason for the food poisoning, said he.

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

Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control,
Ministry Of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India

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Devotees from villages-Dharora, Peepri, Segaon, Borlai and other nearby areas, attended the bhandara. "Condition of all the victims being treated at district hospital is stable. A team has been sent to the spot for investigation. Also, medical teams have been sent to conduct door-to-door survey in the villages," district collector Tejaswi Naik told TOI. "I started vomiting as soon as I reached my home after taking khichdi and halwa, said 12-year-old Vipin Yadav, who was gasping with pain. District hospital was jam-packed with the affected and its management was exposed when several women and adults were made to lie on floor and hooked up to IV drips for treatment of severe dehydration. Some appeared to be doubled over, apparently from stomach cramps.

Terming it a tragic incident, Congress MLA Ramesh Patel said that he will demand posting of more doctors at district hospital in the Assembly. "The bhandara is being organised on Shivratri for the past 25 years. But this unfortunate incident has happened for the first time," said Narmada Bachao Andolan activist Rahul Yadav.

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