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

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3924	20.03.2017	20.03.2017	Karnataka	www.bangaloremirror.com/English http://bangaloremirror.indiatimes.com/news/state/h1n1-ravage-state-on-alert/articleshow/57723017.cms
Title:	H1N1 Ravage: Karnataka state on alert			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to SSU-Karnataka			

Minister asks health officials to take precautionary measures as 871 H1N1 infections cases and 7 deaths reported in Karnataka in 2 months

In a little over two months, seven people in the state have lost their lives to H1N1. Revealing this in his reply to a question by Cheluvaraya Swami recently, minister for Health and Family Welfare Ramesh Kumar added that as many as 871 people are reported to be infected with the lethal virus till March 9 this year.

The deaths have been reported from Bengaluru, Shivamogga, Kolar, Chikkamagaluru and Mysuru. The minister has thus asked all district health officials to take precautionary measures.

On the present situation of Influenza-A (H1N1) in the state, Directorate of Health and Family Welfare Services has stated that the total number of H1N1 positives was 1,207 out of the total 3,803 samples tested this year. The number of positives has increased for the same period of last year. During 2016, 3,494 samples were tested, of which 110 samples were tested positive and no death was reported.

When the data from the year 2009 is examined, the highest number of deaths was reported in that year (135 deaths), followed by those during 2010 (120 deaths), and the number dropped to 94 in 2015.

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

22-Sham Nath Marg, Delhi – 110 054

For more information please contact: Media Scanning & Verification Cell: - Phone (011)23946029

Email: - idsppediaalert@gmail.com, idspp-msc@nic.in, idspp-npo@nic.in

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एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

At 560 positives and two deaths, the highest number of H1N1 cases this year have been reported from Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). Dakshina Kannada recorded its first H1N1 death this year when a pregnant woman succumbing to viral pneumonia recently.

According to district surveillance officer Dr Rajesh, out of the 62 samples tested this year, 12 have been tested positive. Following the death of a woman whose husband is an MRPL employee, the company issued a health advisory regarding H1N1, though this has not been brought to the notice of the health department. "We have been told that they have even suggested vaccination to prevent H1N1," he said.

Dengue

Other than H1N1, the state is also reeling under dengue, chikungunya. The number of suspected dengue cases across the state stands at 6,584 of which 266 cases were tested positive. Though no dengue deaths have been reported this year, the highest number of suspected cases came from Bengaluru Urban that recorded 4,351 cases of which six tested positive from 286 blood samples. However, at 48, the highest number of positive cases were recorded at Ballari, where 489 suspected cases and 459 blood samples were collected.

Chikungunya

The state has also been hit by chikungunya. Out of 942 suspected cases from across the state, 101 have been tested positive. While no deaths have been reported so far, the highest number of suspected cases was reported from Chitradurga. Of the 159 suspected cases, 28 were declared positive from 123 blood samples collected. In Bengaluru Urban, 139 suspected cases were reported of which three were positive of 74 blood samples collected. Davangere recorded 125 suspected cases and 12 cases were detected as positive of 121 samples collected. Mysuru too has been affected by chikungunya. Of 139 suspected cases and blood samples collected, three positive cases were reported.

Monkey fever

A suspected death due to monkey fever or Kyasanur forest disease (KFD) was reported from Shivamogga in February. In the year 2014, 143 cases of KFD were reported from Shivamogga, while the number dropped to 13 in 2015 and 16 cases were reported from between December 2016 and Feb this year. During the past three weeks, no fresh cases have been reported and the fever is said to be under control. As a precautionary measure, vaccination is underway in some districts.

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Jaundice

Over 100 cases of jaundice have been reported from the Napoklu region of Kodagu district this year. Consumption of contaminated water has led to an increase in the cases of jaundice (approved cases of Hepatitis A), according to reports.

While a spurt in jaundice cases came as a shock to the district health department, on investigation, it found that people were being forced to drink water that was not fit for drinking. This was because of scanty rainfall during the monsoon that has affected the Cauvery. People of Napoklu have started using water from open wells as a result.

According to a team of health officials that visited the village, the panchayat was pumping and storing water in three tanks, but did not chlorinate or filter it. "When the department sent water samples for tests, it found that several of them were not portable. We conducted an intense campaign that included awareness programmes at schools, discussions at various levels, team visits and distribution of pamphlets. The panchayat officials were enlightened about providing safe water. The three tanks were sanitised," a health official said

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