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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
4559	16.03.2018	19.03.2018	Etah Uttar Pradesh	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/agra/70-students-fall-ill-after-eating-meal-at-etah-government-boarding-school/articleshow/63336837.cms
Title:	70 students fall ill after eating meal at Etah government boarding school in Etah district, Uttar Pradesh			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU-Etah, SSU-Uttar Pradesh			

At least 70 students were taken ill in a suspected case of food poisoning at an Etah government boarding school on Friday morning. The students of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Awasiya Vidyalaya were rushed to the district hospital after they complained of stomach ache and uneasiness following a meal at their hostel mess.

School authorities realized the gravity of the situation when only nine pupils came to attend the morning assembly, while the rest could not make it. District magistrate (DM) Amit Kishore has called for a magisterial probe into the incident.

Speaking to TOI, sub-divisional magistrate of Jalesar, Vijay Kumar said, "The first case of illness was reported around 3am on the intervening night of Thursday and Friday after the students had dinner. School authorities said rajma (kidney beans), rice, chappati and dal were served. On early Friday morning, over 30 students complained of severe stomach ache." The school at present has 100 girl students enrolled in it.

DM Amit Kishore said, "Prima facie, it seems to be a case of food poisoning. Samples of food have been collected from the school mess for test. All, except four girls, were

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

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discharged from the hospital. The ill students have been sent to the S N Medical College in Agra since their condition was stated to be serious."

According to senior officials of Etah administration, the students have complained that quality of food served in the institute was below average.

"Once the report arrives, we will take strict action against those responsible. An advisory has also been issued to all government schools in Etah to ensure that only best quality food is served to students," added DM Kishore. Earlier, on Wednesday, primary school students of Amar Shaheed Ismarak Balika Vidyalaya at Raja Ka Rampur in Etah had lodged a complaint with the SDM of Aliganj, Mahendra Singh, after they found a dead flea and other insects in their mid-day meal. A probe is under way in the matter.

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