



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
3730	27/10/2016	28/10/2016	Udupi Karnataka	www.timesofindia.com/English http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mangaluru/Rat-fever-panic-grips-Udupi/articleshow/55083768.cms
Title:	Rat fever panic grips in district Udupi, Karnataka			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU-Udupi, SSU-Karnataka			

Leptospirosis (rat fever) fear has gripped the city after four people succumbed to the disease recently - two in Pethri and one each in Iruvathoor and Kundapur. The district medical authorities are busy taking measures to control the spread of the disease, transmitted primarily through urine of rodents.

Microbiologist Suma explained that the climatic condition of the coastal area supports the spread of the disease. People who come in contact with stagnant water, damp soil or vegetation contaminated by the urine of an infected rodent, is prone to get the disease, she said, adding flood water also causes leptospirosis.

"People with greater occupational exposure to contaminated environment are more vulnerable to the disease, which is found mostly in males. Slaughter house workers, fisherman, lorry drivers, sewer workers and farmers should take extra care to prevent any kind of infection," Suma said. She added that it is rare among children and infants. Health officials are currently trying to ease the tension among the public by creating awareness programmes. Severe headache, muscle pain and conjunctival suffusion are some of the common symptoms of leptospirosis, and requires a seven-day treatment.

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,
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-misc@nic.in, idspp-npo@nic.in

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Preventing the disease :- Leptospirosis is generally prevalent during the monsoon season. To prevent its spread, rodent control measures should be taken in wet areas such as abattoirs, fish markets and sewers. Artificial bathing ponds should be protected. Vulnerable groups such as livestock handlers, veterinarians, miners, butchers and sewer workers should be given waterproof clothing. Cuts and wounds should be treated immediately and pets should be given leptospiral vaccine. During rainy days, water logging should be avoided.

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