



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  |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------|------------|---|
| 4872                            | 06.09.2018   | 06.09.2018     | Kerala     | <a href="http://www.timesofindia.com/English">www.timesofindia.com/English</a><br><a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kochi/after-leptospirosis-it-is-dengue-now/articleshow/65693092.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kochi/after-leptospirosis-it-is-dengue-now/articleshow/65693092.cms</a> |
| <b>Title:</b>                   | <b>Kerala: After leptospirosis, it is dengue now</b> |                |            |   |
| Action By<br>CSU, IDSP<br>-NCDC | Information communicated to SSU-Kerala               |                |            |   |

Even as the health department is trying to curb the spread of leptospirosis, the state is now facing a new health threat in the form of dengue. Health minister KK Shailaja said an alert has been issued for dengue in the wake of increasing cases being reported in the state. Mosquito menace has risen in Kerala due to stagnant water after floods. On Wednesday, 64 confirmed and 112 suspected cases of leptospirosis were reported. There was one confirmed leptospirosis death in Thiruvananthapuram and a suspected death in Pathanamthitta.

Also, 39 suspected and 11 confirmed dengue cases were reported on Wednesday as against 150 suspected and 47 confirmed cases in August. There was one death due to dengue in August. Shailaja said that there was no increase in leptospirosis deaths. The number of leptospirosis cases has increased manifold, a week after the floods. "Since the floods in August, there were 45 suspected deaths due to leptospirosis and 13 confirmed deaths. On Wednesday, there was one death. On the other hand, from January to July 31, 85 died due to suspected leptospirosis and 43 deaths happened due to leptospirosis," she said. State government is seeking help of ICMR and other agencies to conduct a study on contagious diseases in wake of the flood. She said despite the flood, health department has been able to curb the spread of leptospirosis.

**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**

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Kerala Medical Services Corporation Ltd that is distributing all essential medicines - including doxycycline – has so far distributed 75.33 lakh tablets and we are ensuring there is no shortage of medicines, she said. Meanwhile, Kerala Government Medical Officers Association (KGMOA) has asked the government to step in and stop unscientific methods of prevention that can prove to be fatal. KGMOA also sought action against quacks. After floods, the health department has been issuing alerts about communicable disease outbreak.

“We had asked people – who came in contact with flood water – to take doxycycline 200. However, most of them – who were involved in rescue and relief work – ignored the advice,” said a statement issued by KGMOA. It alleged that several ineffective medicines are being distributed to flood-affected people through some government agencies and after consuming the same, people have a misconception that they are now immune to leptospirosis. “Now, they are refusing to take doxycycline and many such persons tested positive for leptospirosis. This is a major crisis that and we also have to handle the fake news spread by quacks,” added the statement.

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