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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
5309	04.06.2019	04.06.2019	Bangalore Karnataka	www.bangaloremirror.com/English https://bangaloremirror.indiatimes.com/bangalore/others/even-before-monsoon-dengue-cases-on-a-rise/articleshow/69639870.cms
Title:	Even before monsoon, dengue cases on a rise in Bangalore-Karnataka			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to SSU-Karnataka			

Usually, there is a spurt in dengue cases once the monsoon is set in and city receives heavy rainfall. However, many hospitals in the city have already witnessed number of patients being admitted for the last three weeks. Daily, seven to eight cases are brought in. The rise in the cases, they say, is due to stagnation of water as the roads that are being dug and not filled immediately, leading to breeding sites for the mosquitoes.

However, authorities claim that the spraying has been regular. City health experts have also warned that the civic body should immediately take steps to curb an outbreak. The cases are maximum among the working professionals as they more exposed to open areas where there is water logging. Dr Bindu Suresh who runs Swathi Clinic in Bellandur says she has seen an rise in cases, especially in Bellandur

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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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due to flooding. "I get 15 patients with fever every day and half of the cases turn out to be dengue.

The authorities should get the area fogged up or sanitised as just precautions at an individual level wouldn't help. A slight rain in the evening gets the roads flooded and then, there is stagnation of water. At many places, the roads are also dug up and not closed. They also become a breeding point.

There's lot of water logging around the places where there is construction also happening," she says. Patients are across all age groups. "My patients have been reaching out to the civic body but they say they are busy with election work and need some permission for spraying," she claims. Dr Sunil Havannavar, consultant, internal medicine, Columbia Asia Hospital Sarjapur Road, says there has been an alarming rise in the cases of dengue in the last two weeks.

He claims 20 patients come to OPD every day and five to six of them need admission. Most cases are children, above nine years of age. He observed, "The roads and lakes are not being maintained well and there is lot of construction work going on. These serve as ideal breeding places for the mosquitoes." Dr Sunil Havannavar advises one should cover themselves while stepping out during the day, as these mosquitoes bite in the day.

Dr Ambanna Gowda, consultant, internal medicine, Fortis Hospital, agrees with other doctors. "I just got a case of a family of four with all of them, including their domestic help affected by dengue," he says. He suggests everyone to check their platelet every two days in case their fever and weakness persists. Dr S Manohar, director and head of department, internal medicine, Sakra World Hospital, says, he has seen a rise in the number of cases compared to last year.

"We have been receiving at least 10 to 15 cases every day since mid May. Normally, we see dengue cases from mid June soon after the monsoon starts but this year. But we are not sure why it's more this year though. 80 per cent of the cases are among the age group 20 to 35 year," he says. BBMP's Chief Health Officer (public health) Dr Manoranjan Hegde, says, "We are spraying regularly. There was also a meeting held by the commissioner with solid waste management and all engineers. He's given clear instructions to all of them to ensure that there is no water logging in the city and garbage is cleared as soon as possible."

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