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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
5519	05.09.2019	06.09.2019	Palghar Maharashtra	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/jaundice-claims-student-in-dahanu-tribal-school/articleshow/70989349.cms
Title:	Jaundice claims student in Dahanu tribal school, Palghar-Maharashtra			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Palghar, SSU-Maharashtra			

A nine-year-old tribal student of a government residential school in Dahanu died of jaundice recently and 16 took ill after drinking contaminated water in the school, it was learnt on Wednesday. The sole water filter in the hostel was non-functional since June, when the school reopened for the new academic year, and was blamed for the death of Naitik Talha. The state tribal secretary suspended school principal T Patil and hostel superintendent R Gavitt pending an internal inquiry.

Parents of students said school officials had been informed about the defunct filter but took no action. Talha, a Class III student of the tribal school in Tawa village of Dahanu taluka in tribal-dominated Palghar district died in the last week of August.

Last year in September, a 14-year-old girl in a government-run ashram school for tribals in Wada taluka, also in Palghar district, died. An NGO, Shramjeevi Sanghatana, said it was a malnutrition death. The 16 hostel-mates of Talha who took ill were admitted to the Kasa government hospital with complaints of vomiting, fever and abdominal pain on Sunday. While 11 were discharged after treatment, five students were undergoing treatment for suspected jaundice.

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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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Talha had complained of vomiting and loose motions and was admitted to hospital, where he tested positive for jaundice. Students were reportedly drinking contaminated water, said Dahanu tehsildar Rahul Sarang. The water they drank reportedly came from a hand-pump; samples were later sent for tests. Tribal welfare minister Ashok Uike and Palghar member of Parliament Rajendra Gavit visited the hostel and hospital.

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