



सत्यमेव जयते
Government of India



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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
3246	06.01.2016	07.01.2016	Shimla Himachal Pradesh	www.tribuneindia.com/English http://www.tribuneindia.com/news/himachal/more-than-500-jaundice-cases-in-shimla/180093.html
Title:	More than 500 jaundice cases in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Shimla , SSU- Himachal Pradesh			

More than 500 cases of jaundice have been reported from this Himachal Pradesh capital in the past few weeks and their number has been increasing each day, doctors said on Wednesday. Shimla civic authorities suspect that mixing of sewage with the potable water has caused the spread of the water-borne disease.

The state high court also took suo motu cognizance in this regard and sought a status report from the government by Thursday.

Deputy Mayor Tikender Panwar told IANS that effluents from the sewerage treatment plant in Malyana, located the vicinity of the Ashwani Khud drinking water scheme, was mainly responsible for water contamination. He said he lodged a criminal negligence complaint with the police against a contractor of the treatment plant on Tuesday who has been accused of discharging sewage in the rivulet without treating it. Panwar said the government-run treatment plant uses an outdated technology for reusing the water. The Ashwani Khud drinking water scheme supplies water to one-third of Shimla's population.

Most of the jaundice cases have been reported from Chotta Shimla, Panthaghati, Vikas Nagar, New Shimla and Kasumpti, a health officer said. Doctors in the Indira Gandhi Medical College and Hospital (IGMCH) said on an average 15 to 20 patients suffering with jaundice come to the hospital daily. More than 250 patients have been treated in the IGMCH alone so far.

Irrigation and Public Health Minister Vidya Stokes said the government has taken preventive steps to check the further spread of jaundice. She said water supply from the Ashwani Khud has been temporarily shut till the mixing of untreated water from the sewerage treatment

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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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plant is plugged. Sounding a note of caution, Panwar said the testing of potable water at any level is not done for virus causing hepatitis because there is no such laboratory in the state. He said quality of water supplied from the Ashwani Khud is not good, which is causing repeated epidemic in Shimla. In 2007, 2010 and 2013, a large number of people in the town tested positive for Hepatitis E, a liver problem caused by the consumption of water contaminated by sewerage. Planned for a maximum population of 16,000, Shimla is home to 170,000 people as per the 2011 census and generates 30.09 million litres per day of sewage.

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