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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
3839	14.01.2017	16.01.2017	Solan Himachal Pradesh	www.tribuneindia.com/English http://www.tribuneindia.com/news/himachal/water-samples-at-solan-found-contaminated/349990.html
Title:	Water samples found contaminated at Solan, Himachal Pradesh			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU-Solan, SSU-Himachal Pradesh			

With samples of untreated water from Ashwani Khud testing positive for Hepatitis-A as well as Hepatitis E virus, alarm bells have rung in the district administration though the treated water was found safe in the tests conducted by the Pune-based National Virology Lab. As a precautionary measure the lifting of water from this source has been suspended. Another sample of water was sent to the Pune lab today for testing with the Irrigation and Public Health (IPH) officials having begun hyper-chlorination of this source.

Medical Officer Health, Dr NK Gupta, confirmed that the first samples of untreated water which was drawn on December 20 was found contaminated with Hepatitis-E virus while the second samples drawn on January 5 was found infected with Hepatitis-A virus. Officials said that the detection of hepatitis virus in the raw water was an indication of contamination with sewage and this was a serious issue which needs to be detected and plugged. More than 800 cases of jaundice had surfaced in Solan last year owing to the contaminated water. One person had also lost his life.

Deputy Commissioner Rakesh Kanwar, while taking a serious note of these findings, has directed the officials of the Irrigation and Public Health as well as local

Save Water- Save Life, Save a tree- Don't print unless it's really necessary!

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**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

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Municipal Committee to ensure thorough cleaning of the public water tanks. He directed the authorities to ensure additional lifting of water from the alternate Giri river. Since nearly 60 per cent of the water was being supplied from the Ashwani Khud suspension of lifting water from this scheme has created a shortage of water in Solan town.

The Deputy Commissioner has also directed the officials to ensure regular sampling of water from various sources including public tanks and ensure that two successive samples of raw water were found hepatitis free. People have been directed to boil water for at least 15 minutes before consuming it as a precaution though no case of jaundice had as yet surfaced in the town.

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