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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
3456	09.06.2016	09.06.2016	Odisha Malkangiri	www.timesofindia.com/English http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bhubaneswar/Malaria-grips-Bonda-village-docs-rush/articleshow/52665035.cms
Title:	Malaria cases reported in district Malkangiri, Odisha			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Malkangiri , SSU- Odisha			

Fever and respiratory ailments have struck the Bondas, a particularly vulnerable tribal group, with a population of just over 6,000. Officials said over 20 Bondas are suffering from malaria at Andrahal village in Malkangiri's Khairput block. On Wednesday, the district administration sent a medial team to Andrahal to treat patients and distribute medicines.

Blood samples of 20 villagers tested positive for malaria and their treatment is on. "We have decided to keep a medical team at Andrahal for the next one week to treat the patients. Serious patients will be shifted to Khairput hospital," said medical officer (Khairput hospital) S K Topno.

According to the doctor, blood samples of more villages will be tested for suspected malaria. However, villagers said medical care is virtually non-existent even though there is an auxiliary nursing midwife (ANM) centre in the village. There is also a primary health centre and an ayurvedic dispensary at Mudulipada, about 13 km from Andrahal.

"Most galling is the fact that doctors and health workers here are not committed to their job. The poor tribals, who are vulnerable to diseases, have no option but to depend on their own primitive methods," alleged Gouri Sisa, an elderly woman of Andrahal.

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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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Even though there is a hospital at Mudulipada, it is being run by an NGO and is not well-equipped with medicines, she alleged. Topno, however, denied all this. "Our medical teams are visiting Bonda villages and distributing medicines regularly. We are doing everything to treat the patients and control the situation," he added. Bondas live in inaccessible hills, which cover about 130 sqkm in Mudulipada and Andrahal panchayats in Malkangiri. A micro project called Bonda Development Agency has been in force since 1977, but the Bondas, whose literacy is as low as 7.8% , have not benefitted by it".

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