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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
5491	28.08.2019	28.08.2019	Srikakulam Andhra Pradesh	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/fear-of-viral-fever-grips-skulam-as-6-people-die-in-etcherla-in-a-month/articleshowprint/70864890.cms
Title:	Fear of viral fever grips Srikakulam district-Andhra Pradesh as 6 people die in Etcherla in a month			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Srikakulam, SSU-Andhra Pradesh			

Residents are worried as viral fevers have gripped parts of Srikakulam district. The number of fever cases reported from across the district have been abnormally high over the last one month. Officials claimed that six people have died of various diseases at Etcherla mandal over the last month.

A ten-year-old boy named Arasada Jaswanth, a resident of Veeragatham died of dengue a few days ago according to his parents. His relatives alleged that the boy died due to inadequate response from government hospitals in Palakonda and Parvatipuram. The boy had been later shifted to a government hospital in Vizag, where he died, his parents said. When the death was brought to the notice of Srikakulam district's medical and health officer, Dr M Chenchaiyah, he said that the boy had died of some other condition, not dengue. He made the claim saying that the department had studied the medical report that stated that his platelet count was nearly 80,000. Dr Chenchaiyah further said that while the boy's parents had been advised to go to RIMS, Srikakulam for better treatment, they did not heed the advice and admitted the boy to a corporate hospital in Vizag.

"Therefore, there is no report of a dengue death in the district. The six people who

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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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died at Etcherla over the last one month, died due to various other reasons and not viral fevers like dengue and malaria," Chenchaiyah told TOI.

Chenchaiyah further said that one of the six people who died in Etcherala, a 24-year-old woman, died in an area that had no drainage system. Their department has referred the case to the panchayati raj department and asked them to start sanitation works immediately to keep the village clean. "We have conducted medical camps and have taken the situation under our control. Now, the district is free of fever and other diseases," Chenchaiyah said.

Sources on the other hand said that the recent rains and floods in the district have led to the spread of seasonal diseases. The public has been asked to take precautionary measures like drinking boiled water and not panic.

Therefore, there is no report of a dengue death in the district. The six people who died at Etcherla over the last one month, died due to various other reasons and not viral fevers like dengue and malaria

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