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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
5649	28.11.2019	29.11.2019	Bareilly Uttar Pradesh	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bareilly/with-eight-boys-down-with-chickenpox-juvenile-home-officials-fear-an-outbreak/articleshow/72266161.cms
Title:	With eight boys down with chickenpox, juvenile home official in district Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU-Bareilly, SSU-Uttar Pradesh			

With as many as eight boys are found suffering from chickenpox, assistant superintendent of the overcrowded juvenile home SB Shukla has expressed fear that more boys may contact the highly contagious virus.

The juvenile home has a capacity to house only 50 minor offenders, but as many as 163 inmates are lodged here, at present. In the absence of the required infrastructure and amenities, most of the inmates are forced to sleep on the ground and have been dealing with other difficulties, said juvenile home officials.

Fearing an outbreak, Shukla said, "As of now, eight boys are suffering from chickenpox. But, we have very little resources at hand to protect other inmates from this highly contagious disease. I'm afraid if inmates are not shifted to other places, we may be inviting a disaster to happen in the near future."

According to Shukla, he has categorically stated in his letter to district probation officer (DPO) Neeta Ahirwar that the juvenile home is housing over three-fold inmates than its actual capacity. "We have been facing an acute shortage of basic amenities and infrastructure, such as toilets, to accommodate 163 inmates under a

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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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small roof. Even providing them with little space to sleep in the night is a challenge for us since we have the capacity to accommodate only 50 boys. Most of the inmates are forced to sleep on the ground. With the onset of winter, sleeping on the ground can be hazardous to their health," said Shukla.

Responding to Shukla's concerns, DPO Ahirwar told TOI, "Doctors have been examining the patients regularly, and we are providing them with proper diet and medication. It's true that the juvenile home is overcrowded, but we don't have the option to shift extra inmates to other places as the Bareilly division has only one juvenile home. However, the situation at other juvenile homes in neighbouring commissionaires of Meerut, Agra and Lucknow is no different — they, too, are overcrowded."

"As far as the sleeping facility is concerned, the inmates have been provided with warm clothes, mattresses and quilts," she said.

The DPO, however, said the problem would be resolved shortly as a new building for juvenile inmates was being built in Shahjahanpur. "It is in the final leg and will be handed over to the department soon."

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