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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
5183	07.03.2019	08.03.2019	Shivamogga Karnataka	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/68293242.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst&fbclid=IwAR3OWsM8C_GloURZ103Ie_Sfu1XfBcqsIsF9QHZaOuKeRzV1SmAmFUFhKR7w
Title:	Leptospirosis scare grips Shivamogga district, Karnataka			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU-Shivamogga, SSU-Karnataka			

Parts of the district are still grappling with the problem of Kyasanur Forest Disease (KFD), and the district administration is still scrambling to ensure adequate supply of vaccination, but the officials now have a new problem on their hands – leptospirosis, a bacterial disease.

The district health department data indicates that as many as 23 people from Theerthahalli, Hosanagara and Sagar taluks have tested positive for the disease, which is terribly hard to ascertain, since its symptoms are easily confused with several other disorders. While high fever, chills and severe headache are among the symptoms, leptospirosis can last for many months if not treated early. However, the district health department has asked the residents not to worry since the disease is not fatal, and can be treated locally. Shivamogga district surveillance officer Dr BS Shankarappa said that leptospirosis was a fairly common disease in the Malnad region, particularly among those who worked on agricultural fields. "It is not a fatal disease.

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Disclaimer:- This is a media alert subject to verification.

**Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control,
Ministry Of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India**

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It does not lead to severe complications in one's health," said Dr Shankarappa, confirming that the health department had confirmed the occurrence of the disease in three taluks of the district.

Shivamogga district health officer (DHO) Rajesh Suragihalli echoed Dr Shankarappa's observations about the lack of severity of leptospirosis. "It can be treated like any other common fever," said Suragihalli. However, residents are a worried lot. The similarities between the symptoms of leptospirosis and KFD have left them worried. "We hope the state government takes some measures to contain fevers in this region. Since November, people in villages have started moving to cities owing to fear," said Jagannath, a health activist from Shivamogga.

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