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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
3353	19.04.2016	19.04.2016	Dehradun Uttarakhand	<a href="http://www.timesofindia.com/English">www.timesofindia.com/English</a> <a href="http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/dehradun/Spike-in-chickenpox-cases-keeps-Doon-on-edge-alert-may-be-sounded/articleshow/51850661.cms">http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/dehradun/Spike-in-chickenpox-cases-keeps-Doon-on-edge-alert-may-be-sounded/articleshow/51850661.cms</a>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Chickenpox cases reported in district Dehradun, Uttarakhand</b>			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Dehradun, SSU-Uttarakhand			

With reports of one death and over 40 individuals seemingly affected by chickenpox in a village here, health officials might sound an alarm if the highly contagious disease does not come under control in the next few days, said the state's chief medical officer (CMO) on Friday. According to reports, the menace-like situation came to light after a 15-year-old died at Kunjagrانت village on Wednesday and 48 others were found to be affected by the air-borne disease during a medical camp organized by a private hospital here on Friday. The victim had reportedly died on his way to a city hospital after being denied admission to another private hospital in Vikas Nagar. In a surprise revelation, experts at the camp also found many to be suffering from the highly infectious disease for nearly a month, triggering suspicions of other severe illnesses. Doctors at the Sant Mahant Indresh Hospital, which held the medical camp, said, "Some of these villagers have been ill for nearly a month now and we suspect there might be cases of skin allergies too. Three adolescents have been admitted to the hospital. The situation was, perhaps, also aggravated because of the resident's lack of awareness about the disease. Proper investigation is needed in many of the cases."

"Locals are worried about their lives because appropriate health facilities are far from our village. One child died due to lack of treatment for chickenpox. There are no treatments or awareness camps for the residents," expressed Mohammad Ghalib, grampradhan of Kunjagrانت.

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Disclaimer:-This is a Media Alert and pending verification.

**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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The incident also brings to light shoddy health facilities in the rural belts of Uttarakhand. Even as a public health centre is situated in the village, the health department sent a team to Kunjagrang only on Thursday following the 15-year-old's death. The health department said an entire medical team has been put on high alert. "Our medical team reached the village on Thursday. They will visit them again on Saturday to ensure the infection has not spread further. We could have stopped the viral disease earlier had the villagers approached us. Medical experts have been put on alert and, if need be, the district will be alarmed about it," CMO of Dehradun Dr S P Agarwal said.

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