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Media Scanning & Verification Cell



Media alert from the Media Scanning & Verification Cell, IDSP-NCDC.

Alert ID	Publication Date	Reporting Date	Place Name	News Source/Publication Language
5997	05.11.2020	06.11.2020	Malkangiri Odisha	www.odishatv.in/English https://odishatv.in/odisha-news/malkangiri-unknown-disease-claims-5-lives-in-45-days-490919
Title:	Unknown disease claims 5 lives in 45 days in Malkangiri district, Odisha			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Malkangiri , SSU- Odisha			

As many as 5 persons have died of an unknown disease in the last 45 days at Bhejanapalli village in the Padia block in Malkangiri. A majority of the residents in the village belong to the Koya tribe. Fear grips the village as more than 10 persons have so far been infected with the life-threatening disease. As per reports, of them, 5 persons are critically ill while the rest have developed identical symptoms.

As of now, no medical team has reached the patients in Bhejanapalli village. Villagers have turned to witchcraft and sorcery to find a palpable cure for the disease.

Villagers said that the early symptoms of the contraction include unnatural swelling of the face, hands, legs and abdomen. Then the patient develops severe weakness and his food intake goes down drastically. As per reports, elderly people are prone to this disease. People belonging to the age group of 40 or above are also developing symptoms.

Save Water- Save Life, Save a tree- Don't print unless it's really necessary!

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**

22-Sham Nath Marg, Delhi – 110 054

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Locals alleged that ASHA and Anganwadi workers are not taking the outbreak of the disease seriously. Without proper healthcare facilities, the villagers, who belong to the Koya tribe, have turned to quacks for a cure from the disease with no history of occurrence in the area.

Following an OTV report on the unknown killer disease, the Malkangiri Chief District Medical Officer (CDMO) has assured to send a medical team to the village to carry out testing and availing treatment to the infected people.

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