38 positive cases of H1N1 in BBMP areas

Last Yr Too Saw A Spurt During The Same Time

▶Continued from page 1

There have been 38 positive cases of H1N1 in BBMP areas and 13 in Bengaluru Urban district. In Karnataka, 76 positive cases have been diagnosed since January this year.

The woman who died in Bengaluru was first admitted to a private hospital in Hebbal and taken to Vaidehi Institute on January 31. Initially, she had cough, cold and fever, said health department officials.

FLU SCARE

Speaking to TOI, health minister U T Khader said that in both cases, the patients had travelled to Andhra Pradesh. "Last year too, we saw a spurt in cases in the state around this time. All of us must be cautious. The infected must make sure that they don't come in contact with others and prevent spread of the disease," he said. An emergency meeting was held on Thursday and all taluk and district hospitals promised all support to meet the H1N1 threat.

"We will look into the matter of screening those travelling from H1N1 affected areas like Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Gujarat at the Kempegowda International Airport," the minister added.

A week ago, the state's taluk hospitals and even Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Chest Diseases were not supplied with Oseltamivir (Tamiflu), an anti-viral medication used to prevent and treat influenza. "In 2010-11 when the number of cases increased, we had got the medicines supplied directly from the central government. But as cases decreased, the state government stopped supply. Being an autonomous institute, we could procure the medicine. But the worst affected are the taluk-level hospitals," said a senior doctor from an autonomous institute.

Khader said the supply of medicines will be looked into on priority basis.

FLU FACTS

Symptoms

The contagious viral infection has symptoms similar to that of common flu, like cough, fever, sore throat, stuffy or running nose, bodyache, headache, chills, fatigue. A throat swab test confirms if the person suffers from H1N1 or not

COUNT IN KARNATAKA

Some precautions

- Cover your nose and mouth with a disposable tissue when coughing and sneezing
- Dispose of used tissues and viruses by wrapping them up in plastic cover or burning them, so that the infection doesn't spread to garbage cleaners
- Regularly wash hands with water and alcoholic disinfectant solution

NO NEED TO PANIC

H1N1 influenza is like any other viral infection or flu. Now, H1N1 vaccination and Tamiflu medication are available. There is no reason to panic. But the affected person must be cautious enough not to spread the disease to others

Dr H Pramesh | M.S.(GENERAL SURG.), M.CH.(ONCO.), DIRECTOR, CANCER SURGERY, BANGALORE BAPTIST HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTRE AND HOSPITAL

Nursing student who attempted suicide in hostel shifted to Chennai

Bengaluru: Thanuri Chetan, 18, the first year nursing student of SEA College, Kil Param, who slipped into a vegetative state after allegedly attempting suicide in the college hostel, was discharged from Manipal Hospital here on Friday.

Thanuri hanged himself from the ceiling of his room in Ayyappanagar on January 31. When his hostelmates found him choking, he was shifted to Manipal Hospital. Police sources said the family plans to take him to Chennai for treatment. Cops investigating the case affirmed there was no foul play. ▪▪

THE BAROMETER

40

years after Kishore's wedding reel and Jai Veeru's Bisic-friendship took a nation by a storm, cult classic Sholay has reached Pakistan. For the first time, the action adventure is set to release in the neighbourhood, causing excitement and disbelief on Hasleem Mandiwalla is taking the movie across the frontiers, where people, till now, could watch only the pirated version. Mandiwalla plans to release the blockbuster in 20 and 30 on March 13, a public holiday in Pakistan. Sholay screened for over five years at Mumbai's Minerva theatre, the longest-ever run in India at the time

Court adjourns KMF case hearing

Bengaluru: The high court on Friday adjourned hearing on a plea challenging the government's decision to dispose of V P Nagaraj, president of the Karnataka Milk Federation.

This was after advocate general Ravivarma Kumar admitted that the decision was taken without giving the petitioner an opportunity to present his version. The petitioner had said he'd move back on Monday after holding consultations with the government, and requested the court not to pass an order till then. ▪▪

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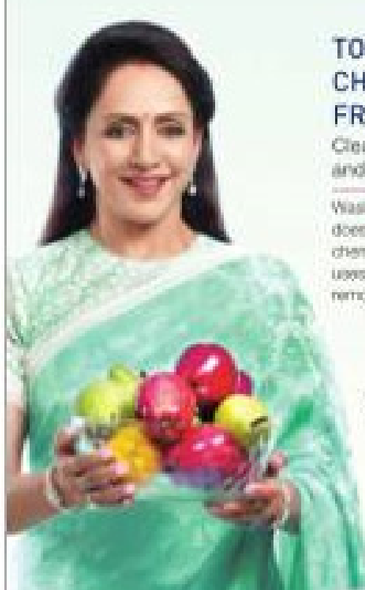

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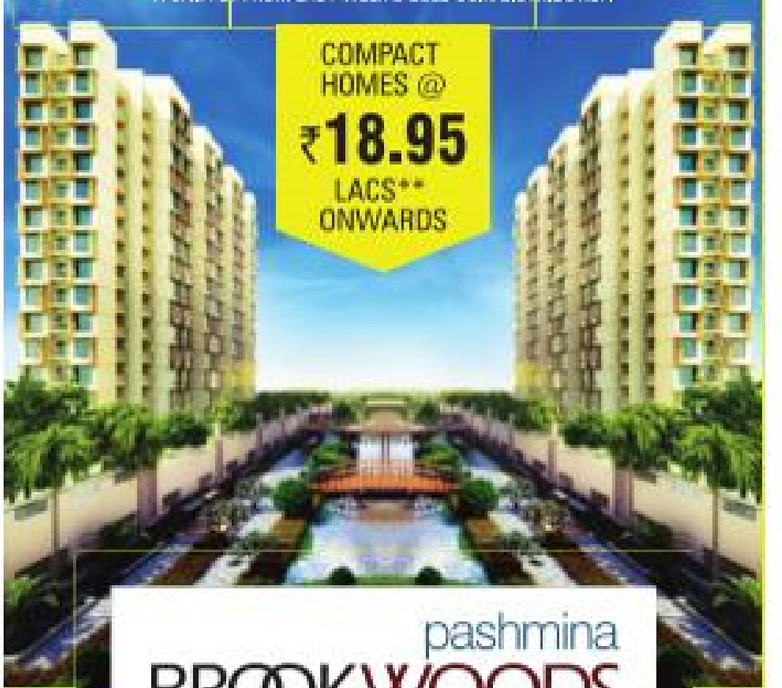

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