

## Preliminary Questions – Public Health

### **(Question in progress) Where are pop-up hospitals located in the city?**

On 1989 hospitals eight hospitals were located inside the mela boundaries. One on the border of the Ganges, five in the northern part of the Yamuna, One next to the Jail, one in the southern part of the Yamuna and one on the eastern part of the Ganges.

### **(Question in progress) What are the overall environmental impacts of temporary infrastructures and bathes at the festival?**

The bathes have huge impacts on the quality of the water. Measurements done by Allahabad Regional Laboratory at the Ardh Kumbh Mela on 1995 showed that several water indicators got important changes drastically due to massive bathing. The following are the indicators provided after the analysis.

	Before	On	After
Temperature	23	20	22
Ph Value	7.50	8.0	7.32
Do (ppm)	7.09	6.0	6.50
BoD (ppm)	6.20	9.5	5.9
Total coliform	26000	54000	33500
Faecal coliform	11000	25000	15000

From the data we saw that the mass bathing affected environmentally the quality of the water into levels that harm human health. For this reason the Mela administration took several measures.

- 1 - Treat the water
- 2 – Advise pilgrims to use soaps and shampoos
- 3- Forbidden cattle washing
- 4 - Advised pilgrims to take bath from safe tape water after a holy dip
- 5- Mass awareness of public health

**How are vaccinations and other available medications distributed to Kumbh visitors?**

**What are the changes in air quality and air pollution during the festival?**

**What is the overall environmental impact of the festival?**

**What pathways open up to let a sick person move out of the crowd and seek medical assistance?**

**What is the layout for appropriate sources of water and sanitation and waste management?**

**What are the placements, numbers, and personnel relating to health clinics of all kinds?**

**Where are pop-up hospitals located in the city?**

**How are vaccinations and other available**

**medications distributed to Mela visitors?**

**Who participates in vaccination initiatives, and at**

**what scale do they expect to continue?**

**How are such large numbers of people organized**

**in relatively peaceful and secure ways?**

**What happens when a disturbance breaks out?**

**What pathways open up to let a sick person**

**move out of the crowd and seek medical**

**assistance?**

**Do people seem to sense when the crowds are getting dangerously dense?**

**What is the layout for appropriate sources of water and sanitation and waste management?**

**How are proper procedures for hand-washing, bathing, drinking, and cooking managed**

**at the family or group level?**

**What are the placements, numbers, and personnel relating to health clinics of all kinds?**

**How is the vaccination process organized, announced,**

**and conducted?**

**What organizational and leadership structure exists to help prevent and respond to large crowd emergencies (weather emergencies, stampedes or outbreaks of group**

violence, use of weapons)?

When and how food and medicine are distributed?

How are proper procedures for hand-washing, bathing, drinking, and cooking managed?

How is the vaccination process organized, announced, and conducted?