



सत्यमेव जयते
Government of India



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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
3288	12.02.2016	12.02.2016	Sindhudurg Maharashtra	www.timesofindia.com/English http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/health-fitness/health-news/15-more-show-symptoms-of-monkey-fever/articleshowprint/50957808.cms
Title:	15 more show symptoms of monkey fever in district Sindhudurg, Maharashtra			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Sindhudurg, SSU- Maharashtra			

The state health officials have identified 15 more patients with symptoms of Kayasanur forest disease or monkey fever in villages close to Ker village in Sindhudurg district, where the outbreak of the tick-borne viral infection was reported a few days ago.

Health officials have sent the blood samples of the suspected patients to the Pune based National Institute of Virology (NIV). It is a highly pathogenic viral disease and can only be tested in labs with high bio-safety standards, an official said.

Earlier, 18 of the 28 blood samples of patients, all from Ker village, had tested positive for the viral infection at the NIV. The monkey fever outbreak, first reported in Maharashtra, has put the public health machinery on its toes. Officials have initiated tick and fever surveillance in the region to check the spread of it.

"We have drawn blood samples of 15 people from Zolambe village, which is 25km from Ker village, and have sent them for tests. A monkey was also found dead near Zolambe village three days ago," district health officer Yogesh Sale said.

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Disclaimer:-This is a Media Alert and pending verification.
Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control,
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The virus has been isolated from several species of ticks found in the Western Ghats. Among animals, only monkeys seem to succumb to the infection after they come in contact with the infected ticks. "A monkey's death by infection often indicates that humans are at risk.

Hence, we conduct insecticide dusting in 50m radius of any spot where a monkey dies so that the infected ticks do not spread. We also conduct tick surveillance in and around areas like animal sheds to see if they are infected," said district epidemiologist Prashant Savadi. The viral infection, which starts with high fever and body ache, produces a haemorrhage, like the one produced by dengue. It has a mortality rate of 5% to 10%. "Suspected patients are given supportive and symptomatic treatment at the primary health centre at Talkat. They are recovering. The symptoms of monkey fever are akin to dengue and other viral infections," Sale said.

The state health officials have started control measures. "We need to control ticks to arrest the spread of virus. We have sprayed Alphacypermethrin, a powerful insecticide, at all animal farms and cattle sheds. We are also sensitizing villagers to wear full clothes, take hot water bath after returning home and wash clothes with hot water," state surveillance officer Pradip Awate said.

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