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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
4584	27.03.2018	28.03.2018	Amroha Uttar Pradesh	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/meerut/60-monkeys-die-in-a-week-forest-dept-suspects-poisoning-by-locals/articleshow/63494050.cms
Title:	60 monkeys die in a week, forest dept suspects poisoning by locals in Amroha, Uttar Pradesh			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Amroha, SSU-Uttar Pradesh			

More than 60 monkeys have died in the past one week at Dabarsi village in Amroha district. It is suspected that these monkeys were poisoned as they were nuisance and had even attacked people. However, the cause of death will become clear after the post-mortem report is received. The forest department has begun investigation in the matter.

A team of veterinary doctors has conducted post-mortem on a few dead monkeys.

On Tuesday, the carcasses of seven monkeys were found in the streets and nearby wheat fields at Dabarsi village. Residents informed the forest department and also called vets.

Giving details, Rajeev Goel, husband of the village head, said, "Over 60 monkeys have died within one week at my village. We have buried most of them. The incidents have shocked villagers and we do not know the reason for the death of monkeys. They may have been poisoned or they consumed some poisonous food as there is a food product manufacturing factory nearby."

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**Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control,
Ministry Of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India**

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Goel called for a fair probe and strict action against those behind the monkey deaths.

One of the vets who conducted the post-mortems, Tejpal Singh, said, "We found their lungs had shrunk and the livers were dark. Prima facie, it seems that they may have suffered from bloody loose motions. We will send the samples to a laboratory. When we receive reports of the samples, we can make a concrete statement in this connection."

On being asked, sub-divisional forest officer AK Singh said, "A team of the forest department was sent to the village concerned to ascertain the reason of the deaths. The number of dead simians is yet to be confirmed. First, we will probe the matter and then say something. If many monkeys have died, there is a possibility of poisoning. There may be other reasons for the monkey deaths."

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