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Government of India



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
3641	07.09.2016	12.09.2016	Mizoram	www.timesofindia.com/English http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/guwahati/Goat-pox-in-Mizoram-102-serows-killed/articleshow/54042437.cms
Title:	Goat pox in Mizoram, 102 serows killed			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to SSU-Mizoram			

Goat pox has killing at least 102 serows or wild goat-antelopes in the state from May, 2015 till August 2016, revealed records of the state environment, forests and climate change department on Tuesday. A source in the department said goat pox, caused by Capripox virus, hit Mizoram early last year and the first death was reported in May, 2015.

All nine territorial forest divisions and four national parks, including Dampa Tiger Reserve in the Mizoram-Tripura-Bangladesh border areas, are under its grip. Aizawl forest division is the worst hit with 25 serow deaths, followed by Lunglei division reporting 19 deaths. Kawrthah and Khawzawl forest divisions reported only one death each. Goat pox is the cause behind the deaths. Serow is Mizoram's state animal and is a Schedule-1 protected species under India's Wildlife Protection Act.

Veterinary experts have warned that serows in Mizoram are under the threat of extinction and the disease is zoonotic in nature, which means it can be transmitted to humans as well. The capripox virus can be found in potential hosts such as goats, sheep and cows. Although climactic and geographical conditions of India are suitable for the rapid spreading of the virus, there have been no recorded cases of goat pox outbreak in Mizoram earlier. Forest officials had initially suspected that the deaths were due to sarcoptic mange, a skin disease caused by a particular kind of mite. Further investigations revealed that a large number of serows had been found dead or too weak.

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

Disclaimer:- This is a media alert subject to verification.

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