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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
6589	08.03.2022	11.03.2022	Moradabad Uttar Pradesh	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bareilly/up- farmers-tense-as-virus-outbreak-in-cattle- spreads/articleshowprint/90072055.cms
Title:	Uttar Pradesh farmers tense as virus outbreak in cattle spreads in district Moradabad			
Action By CSU, IDSP –NCDC	Information communicated to DSU – Moradabad, SSU– Uttar Pradesh			

Farmers in Uttar Pradesh said they were "tense" as a viral outbreak threatened the lives of their cattle. Over 25 animals have reportedly caught a viral disease and nearly five have been found dead.

These include two buffaloes and one calf in Agwanpur and two cows from the Sarai Farooq area.

Animals of villages around the nagar panchayat Agwanpur in Uttar Pradesh's Moradabad have been found suffering because of the viral disease. As a precaution, the chief veterinary officer has given instructions to monitor animals of the entire district. Teams of veterinarians from across the district have taken samples of 25 sick animals and have sent them to the Uttar Pradesh Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay University of Veterinary Science and Co-Anusandhan Sansthan for examination.

Cattle owners Ashok Kumar and Navi Hassan from Agwanpur said that they "noticed signs of the disease around the neck and bottom of the legs of the cows". The veterinary centre put the cows on saline for two days. "Animals are dying due to the spread of a disease in Agwanpur since the past sixteen days," a worried Hassan said.

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

22-Sham Nath Marg, Delhi - 110 054

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"In the neighbouring village, I know a farmer whose cow died due to similar symptoms," he added.

Bhura Hassan and Mohammad Salim, residents of Mohalla Sarai Faroog, said that the livestock of many farmers living in the Mohalla Dhab area had died. "Animals of mostly all the farmers fell sick. Not only this, but the disease also reached the village of Sandalipur and Pachokara, adjacent to Agwanpur. Animals of six farmers were sick there," Salim said. "The chief veterinary officer formed a team of three doctors to keep an eye on Agwanpur and the surrounding rural areas," Bhura told TOI.

Dr. Naresh Chandra, Dr. Shoaib Akhtar, and Dr. Sunil Kumar, who are in the team, visited immediately. On Thursday, the team reached Agwanpur and its surrounding villages and took samples. Chief veterinary officer Dr. Prem Singh said that all the veterinary doctors of the district were alerted. Everyone was asked to take samples of sick animals. "So far, 25 samples have been sent to Mathura for examination. It was revealed from testing that animals died of pneumonia," Dr Singh said.

The virus can be detected early when the pox or skin nodules appear on the body of the animal. There is fever and enlargement of superficial lymph nodes. The virus is spread between animals. Many animals in a herd will be affected but a few will die from the disease. Death rates are greater among aged cattle, said experts.

Veterinarian Sunil Kumar told reporters that the affected animal is unable to eat anything due to blisters in hoof-mouth disease, which reduces its immunity. Because of this, other viruses also emerge. Pneumonia and diarrhea occur in animals. If the animals are treated in time, their death can be prevented.

Dr. Sunil Kumar, a veterinarian posted in Agwanpur, said that the vaccine for the disease had come for animals one and a half years ago. However, the vaccination campaign was stopped midway because the vaccine was "not appropriate". He said that animal insurance has now been initiated. The amount of insurance for an animal worth Rs 50,000 by the government is Rs 631 only, he added.

Veterinarian Dr Shoib said, "There is no specific antiviral treatment available for the infected cattle. Sick animals must be removed from the herd and given supportive treatment consisting of a local wound dressing to discourage flies and prevent secondary infections. Systemic antibiotics may be given for skin infections, cellulitis, or pneumonia, and food and water should be made readily available".

The disease causes damage to the hide, loss of milk and beef production, abortions in females, and sterility in bulls. The economic losses in herds with the disease are very severe.

The disease is not, however, transferable from animals to human beings.

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