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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
5777	14.02.2020	17.02.2020	Karimganj Assam	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/guwahati/assam-mysterious-disease-kills-7-karimganj-kids/articleshow/74131072.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst
Title:	Mysterious disease kills 7 kids in district Karimganj, Assam			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU-Karimganj, SSU-Assam			

Karimganj deputy commissioner (DC) Anbamuthan MP has ordered a probe into the death of six children in Karimganj district, who died of a "mysterious" disease in the past week.

As the deaths triggered panic among locals, the DC held a meeting with health department officials on Wednesday. A senior official of the department said in the meeting that tonsil infection was one of the reasons behind the deaths in Bazaricherra. "Saliva samples of nine children have been collected and sent to Silchar Medical College and Hospital for examination," the official added.

Sources said the fear of coronavirus attack had gripped Karimganj residents after word spread about the deaths. Considering the importance of the issue, the health department swung into action and took a slew of measures to keep the situation under control.

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

**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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Multiple medical teams have been kept on standby in the village for the past two days. On Wednesday, health officials Ashim Kumar Nath, additional CM & HO and Mrinmoy Deb, SDM & HO visited the village and took stock of the prevailing situation. The officials submitted a report to the joint director of health services, Anup Daitary, following which the deputy commissioner held the meeting.

The report was presented before the deputy commissioner and it was claimed by the joint director of health services that tonsil infection was one of the causes of the "abnormal" deaths. He said the kids had swollen tonsils because of cold and they were given homeopathy medicines, which aggravated their condition. This resulted in tonsil infection and ultimately caused their deaths, he added.

The DC urged the local residents to not panic or spread rumours regarding the matter. He ordered a probe into the deaths and hoped the "mystery" behind the deaths would come to light soon.

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