



# 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
7009	27.09.2022	28.09.2022	Dibrugarh Assam	<a href="http://www.timesofindia.com/English">www.timesofindia.com/English</a> <a href="https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/guwahati/100-tomato-flu-cases-in-assam-in-1-mnth/articleshowprint/94467340.cms">https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/guwahati/100-tomato-flu-cases-in-assam-in-1-mnth/articleshowprint/94467340.cms</a>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>100 tomato flu cases in Dibrugarh, Assam in 1 month</b>			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Dibrugarh, SSU- Assam			

More than a 100 cases of hand-foot-and-mouth disease, also known as tomato flu, have been reported in the state in the last one month setting the alarm bells ringing for the health department.

Upper Assam's Dibrugarh district saw the maximum number of cases (100), most of which were reported from two schools, a senior official of the Assam National Health Mission (NHM) told TOI on Monday. "The two schools recorded 24 and 22 cases each, which were clinically confirmed based on symptoms," the official said.

The health department has issued an advisory to the districts to keep the infected children in isolation for seven days. The district health officials have also been asked to inspect the paediatric outpatient departments in the district hospitals for early detection of cases.

However, the health department is yet to officially compile the number of confirmed cases in the state.

Though the disease has not been ascertained as life-threatening, healthcare experts warn that any further spread of tomato flu may hit school attendance once again, after significant recovery from Covid-19. Chances of adults contracting the disease are feeble, they added.

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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**

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“Maintaining a basic hygiene is the key to preventing the outbreak of tomato flu. If an infected child is kept in isolation for a week, there is every chance that he or she will automatically recover with supporting treatment. It is still a self-limiting mild disease for us,” Hemen Das, state epidemiologist of Assam NHM, said.

A previous advisory, shared by the health authorities, had stated that apart from Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Haryana and Odisha, no other region in the country reported tomato flu until August 23.

Though multiple viruses can cause the disease, the health department sources said ‘Coxsackie’ has been responsible for the spread in states like Assam. Coxsackie is transmitted from person to person, through unwashed hands, contaminated surfaces and even through air.

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