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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
3968	03.04.2017	05.04.2017	Goa	www.navhindtimes.in/English http://www.navhindtimes.in/kfd-fears-return-to-haunt-sattari-villages/
title:	KFD fears return to haunt Sattari villages, North-East Goa			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to SSU-Goa			

Kyasanur forest disease (KFD), also known as monkey fever, has again created panic among villagers of Sattari as few more cases have been reported here in the past few weeks. Monkey fever is a viral fever carried by birds, rodents, ticks etc and affects humans as well as monkeys.

The focal point of KFD, since the 1957, has been Shimoga and a few nearby provinces in Karnataka, where a few hundreds of cases were reported every year. This is the third consecutive year that KFD is rearing its head in Goa. From the sources at community health centre, Valpoi, it is learnt that 62 positive cases were reported in the taluka this year. According to available data, of 62 patients, 50 patients were diagnosed at CHC, Valpoi while 12 cases were from PHC, Sankhali. Among the patients, 39 females and 23 males tested positive for KFD. "In neighbouring state of Maharashtra, a total of 8 villagers from Sindhudurg district have succumbed to this disease from January 2017. In Goa, Sattari continues to remain in the grip of KFD since last three years as first case of KFD was detected in the year 2015 and till now 297 cases have been reported with four deaths," said a nodal officer. However, this year the figure of KFD cases reveals that the disease has broken out in some new

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**Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control,
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villages of Sattari like Keri, Shirol and Velguem but there is no human death reported so far.

"We have managed the epidemic much more effectively and prevented the casualty number in comparison to other neighbouring states. Our entire team including CHC health official Gajanan Naik was involved in vaccination drives. We have also supplied DMP oil to the villagers of Mauxi where more cases were reported," said nodal officer for controlling KFD, Dr Wadkar. KFD cases were first reported in Goa in Pali, Sattari in 2015. Three deaths were reported in the same year creating panic among the villagers. When medical professionals of Goa were unable to find the cause of death, Arun Kumar, virologist working with Manipal University's Centre for Virus Research and his team identified it as monkey fever. They also observed that this disease usually spreads to humans from dead carcass of monkeys lying in the cashew plantation. The virus is transferred from monkeys to humans by ticks. Since then, the CHC team has been continuously monitoring the scenario and conducting IEC activities in Sattari. Through awareness campaign, the officials ask trekkers and nature enthusiasts visiting vulnerable areas to take precautions like applying tick repellents and getting vaccinated. In 2015-17, Goa government initiated a mass vaccination programme in Sattari taluka, covering around 9000 people till date. "If you want to stay protected from this disease, you should be able to recognise its primary and secondary symptoms so that it can be cured on time. The primary symptoms include frontal headaches, high fever, bleeding from the nasal cavity, gums, and throats while secondary ones are absent reflexes, muscle stiffness, tremors, and vomiting," said a CHC official.

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