

Press Release

**ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING, FISHERIES AND FISHERMEN
WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

Information was received in TANUVAS ON 17.3.2022 at around 1.00 P.M from the Wildlife Warden, Guindy National Park that three spotted deer had died in the IIT, Madras Campus and the in-house veterinarian suspected Anthrax. The University has immediately taken the following steps.

1. The Veterinarian was asked to collect samples (muzzle pieces from carcasses and blood soaked sand) and bring the same to Central University Laboratory of TANUVAS for confirmatory diagnosis.
2. The forest officials, as a precaution, were advised to dispose the carcasses according to codal procedures which included:
 - a) Not to conduct necropsy on the animals
 - b) Placing the carcass in a pit not less than 6-8 feet deep
 - c) Spraying a thick layer of caustic lime over the carcasses
 - d) Covering the carcasses with thorn before burying and completely filling the pit with mud to prevent digging by stray dogs, etc
 - e) Spray 10% formalin on the soil wherever blood has spilled

Regarding the role of dogs in the disease, it is also clarified that dogs are not known carriers of anthrax organisms and do not play any role in its transmission and there is no need to be concerned about the role of dogs in transmitting the disease to humans.

Further steps will be taken after confirmatory tests on the samples.

Issued By: - DIPR, Secretariat, Chennai - 9.