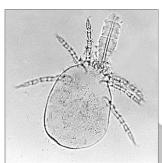


## **Scrub Typhus**

## Why in News

An outbreak of **Scrub Typhus** (also known as **Bush Typhus**), a bacterial disease, has caused 5 deaths and 600 infections in Nagaland's Noklak district bordering Myanmar.

- The North East Region is also suffering from an outbreak of diseases like malaria, Japanese encephalitis and Covid-19 pandemic.
- The cattles have also been affected by **African swine fever**.





## Key Points//

- Caused By: Orientia tsutsugamushi (Bacteria)
- Spread: Through bites of Larval Mites of family trombiculid, also called Chiggers.
- **Symptoms:** Fever, headache, body aches, and sometimes rash.
- Occurrence: Rural areas of Southeast Asia, Indonesia, China, Japan, India, and northern Australia.
- **Treatment:** Antibiotics. No vaccine available.

## **Typhus**

- Typhus is a group of bacterial infectious diseases that include epidemic typhus, scrub typhus, and murine typhus.
  - Epidemic typhus is due to Rickettsia prowazekii spread by body lice.
  - Scrub typhus is due to Orientia tsutsugamushi spread by chiggers.
  - Murine typhus is due to *Rickettsia typhi* spread by fleas.
- Napoleon's army was infected with Epidemic Typhus during his invasion of Russia in 1812 causing it to retreat.

**Source: TH** 

