Anthrax has caused death of two Asiatic water buffaloes in central Assam’s Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary.

**Pobitora Wildlife sanctuary:**
- Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary is located in the state of Assam.
- It is located about 30 km east of Guwahati.
- The Sanctuary is mainly famous for its great Indian one-horned rhinoceros. Besides rhinoceros, the other animals are leopard, wild boar, Barking deer, wild buffalo.
- It has the highest density of Indian one horned Rhino in the world.

**What is Anthrax?**
- Anthrax is a serious infectious disease caused by gram-positive, rod-shaped bacteria known as Bacillus anthracis.
- Anthrax can be found naturally in soil and commonly affects domestic and wild animals around the world.
- Contact with anthrax can cause severe illness in both humans and animals.
- Anthrax is not contagious, which means you can’t catch it like the cold or flu.

**How animals get infected?**
Domestic and wild animals such as cattle, sheep, goats, antelope, and deer can become infected when they breathe in or ingest spores in contaminated soil, plants, or water.

**How people are infected?**
- Working with infected animals or animal products
- Eating raw or undercooked meat from infected animals
- Injecting heroin
- People get infected with anthrax when spores get into the body. When anthrax spores get inside the body, they can be activated.
- When they become active, the bacteria can multiply, spread out in the body,
produce toxins (poisons), and cause severe illness.

- This can happen when people breathe in spores, eat food or drink water that is contaminated with spores, or get spores in a cut or scrape in the skin.