



Major Diseases Situation in South Asia (April - June 2016)

Summary of priority animal diseases reported in South Asia Weekly Animal Disease e- information (includes official and non-official sources)					
Disease	Number of Disease Events	Countries and Host affected	Disease	Number of Disease Events	Countries and Host affected
Anthrax	6	Bangladesh, Bhutan, India - Animal and Human	FMD	2	Bhutan - Cattle
Rabies	4	Bhutan, India - Human and Animals	Infectious Bursal Disease (IBD)	2	Bhutan- Poultry
Kyasanur Forest Disease (KFD) - Monkey fever	2	India - Human	CCHF	3	Pakistan, India - Human
Mad cow disease	1	India - Human	Leishmaniasis	1	Pakistan, India - Human
HPAI	1	India - Poultry	Mysterious / undiagnosed	6	India, Pakistan- Animals

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (FMD)

FMD is endemic in the sub-region. Bhutan, Nepal and Pakistan have shared the following outbreak data with RSU-SAARC:

FMD Outbreaks in South Asia during Second Quarter (April-June) 2016								
Country	State/Province/District	Number of out-breaks	Number of Animal affected	Number of Events by FMD Virus Serotype(s)				Remarks
				0	A	Asia-1	Mixed	
Pakistan* (Source: FAO TCP (TCP/PAK/3503)	Sindh	242	NA	36	60	75	6	Cattle and Buffaloes were affected.
	Punjab	100	NA	15	16	44	0	
	Balochistan	13	NA	8	0	1	0	
	Khyber Pakhtun Khwa	26	NA	8	1	15	1	
	Islamabad Capital Territory	17	NA	0	4	13	0	
	Federally Administered Tribal Areas	0	NA	0	0	0	0	
	Azad Jammun and Kashmir	11	NA	1	6	2	0	
	Gilgit Baltistan	9	NA	5	1	1	0	
	Total	418	NA	73	88	151	7	
Bhutan (Source: National Centre for Animal Health, http://www.ncah.gov.bt/)	Dungana Dzongkhag	1	9	NA	NA	NA	NA	Cattle were affected.
	Paro Dzongkhag	1	4	NA	NA	NA	NA	Cattle were affected.
	Total	2	13	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Nepal (Source: Department of Livestock Services Government of Nepal)	Doti	3	53	NA	NA	NA	NA	Cattle, Buffaloes, Goat were affected
	Kathmandu	6	183	NA	NA	NA	NA	Cattle and Buffaloes were affected
	Kavre	1	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	Cattle were affected
	Lalitpur	1	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	Cattle were affected
	Mahottari	1	5	NA	NA	NA	NA	Cattle were affected
	Parbat	1	10	NA	NA	NA	NA	Cattle were affected
	Ramechhap	3	218	NA	NA	NA	NA	Cattle, buffaloes, Goat, sheep & swine were affected
	Total	16	471	NA	NA	NA	NA	

*Records for March-May 2016;

PESTE DES PETITS RUMINANTS (PPR)

While Nepal and Pakistan shared following data on PPR with RSU-SAARC, Maldives notified PPR outbreak to OIE. Sri Lanka is historically free of the PPR:

PPR Outbreaks in South Asia during Second Quarter (April-June) 2016						
Country	State/Province / District	No outbreaks	No affected	No dead	Laboratory Diagnosis	Remarks
Nepal (Source: VEC, Department of Livestock Services, Government of Nepal)	Arghakhanchi	1	152	46	Yes	195000 sheep goats vaccinated
	Mahottari	1	100	54		
	Total	2	252	100		
Pakistan (Source: GCP/PAK/127/USA)	Punjab	25	NA	NA	Yes	Around 77% of cases were reported in Sindh followed by Punjab.
	Sindh	188	NA	NA		
	Balochistan	10	NA	NA		
	Khyber Pakhtun Khwa	1	NA	NA		
	Islamabad	2	NA	NA		
	Gilgit Baltistan	2	NA	NA		
	Mirpur (AJK)	17	NA	NA		
	Total	245	NA	NA		
Maldives (Source: OIE)	Kolamaafushi	1	104	9	Yes	

HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA (HPAI)

While India has experienced a fresh outbreak detailed below, no event of HPAI was reported from Afghanistan, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka during the quarter. Pakistan has declared itself free of HPAI since 2008. The ongoing targeted bio-surveillance in the poultry production area and along the poultry value chain in six high risk districts of Nepal including Jhapa, Chitwan, Kaski, Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur yielded negative results for H7N9 and H5N1. However, H9N2 was found circulating in most of the districts.

INDIA

HPAI (H5N1) situation in India during April-June 2016								
Date	District/State	Species	No Susceptible	No affected	No dead	No Culled	Test used/	Laboratory
01/05/2016	Bidar / Karnataka	Commercial poultry	142789	8200	8200	22254	(RRT-PCR)	NIHSAD, Bhopal

Source: OIE

REGIONAL MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

5th SAARC Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs) Meeting, 13-14 April 2016, Nagarkot-Nepal

The 5th SAARC CVOs Meeting was jointly organized by the RSU-SAARC, SAARC Secretariat and the Government of Nepal from 13-14 April 2016 in Nepal. The CVOs of all the eight SAARC member states beside representatives from the SAARC Secretariat, SAARC Agriculture Centre, FAO RAP, OIE and ADB attended the meeting.

The meeting recommended (1) to formulate regional action plan/strategy to control AMR/AMU in the region; (2) FAO's proposal to organize a special session for South Asia on AMU/AMR; (3) Pakistan's provisional offer to host the next meeting in March-April 2017 in Pakistan. Moreover, while appreciating the contribution



Honorable Chief guest and Distinguished panelists at the joint event.

of RSU-SAARC, the meeting strongly reiterated to sustain this regional coordination mechanism for control of TADs through either continued financial support from ADB besides exploring other donor agencies.

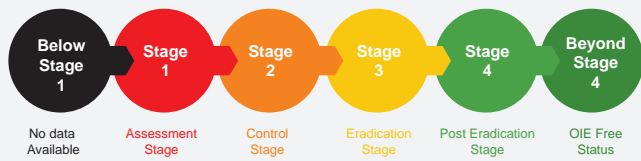
First Roadmap Meeting for the Formulation of a Regional Approach to the Control and Eradication of PPR in the SAARC Region and Brainstorming For The PPR Global Programme Formulation, 11 – 14 April 2016, Nagarkot, Nepal

RSU-SAARC in close collaboration with the PPR Secretariat in FAO, Rome, organized a PPR Roadmap Meeting and a Special Brainstorming Session in Nagarkot, Nepal, back



Participants at the joint opening ceremony of 5th SAARC Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs) Meeting (13-14 April 2016) and First Roadmap Meeting for the Formulation of a Regional Approach to the Control and Eradication of PPR in the SAARC Region & Brainstorming for The PPR Global Programme Formulation (11 – 14 April 2016), Nagarkot-Nepal

The Progressive Step-wise Approach for the prevention and control of PPR



to back with the 5th SAARC CVOs' meeting from 11-14 April 2016. The meetings aimed at engaging the SAARC Member States to take ownership of the Global Control and Eradication Strategy for PPR (GCES) and to work in a harmonized way in the fight against the PPR. The meeting also initiated the process of formulating the outlines for global, regional and national PPR control programmes for the first five-year and to make assessment of country situation with regard to stages of Progressive Control Pathway of PPR (PPR-PCP), shown above.

Six of the eight SAARC countries were at stage-1 of the Progressive Control Pathway of PPR (PPR-PCP) on the date of the meeting. Pakistan put itself at stage-2 while India could not participate in the meeting. The CVO of Pakistan was unanimously elected as the Chairman with CVOs of Nepal and Bangladesh as members of the Regional Advisory Group (RAG) constituted for implementation of the Regional PPR control Strategy in South Asia. All the SAARC countries resolved to eradicate PPR by 2030.

4th Laboratory Director's Meeting and Workshop for SAARC Member Countries, 1-2 June, 2016, Dhaka Bangladesh

Three laboratories are recognized in RSU-SAARC as regional diagnostic laboratories (RDLs) for FMD, PPR and HPAI in India, Bangladesh and Pakistan, respectively. These laboratories have the capacity to provide not only referral diagnostic services but also to enhance the diagnostic capacities in the national laboratories of the SAARC MSs through training, supply of reference reagents, harmonization of procedures and information sharing.

The RSU-SAARC organized the 4th Laboratory Director's Meeting and Workshop from 1-2 June, 2016 in Dhaka



Participants interacting in the 4th Laboratory Director's Meeting and Workshop

Bangladesh. The meeting was attended by over 30 participants from the SAARC countries beside representatives from the three RDLs and the laboratory experts from the World Reference Laboratories for HPAI, PPR and FMD.

The meeting reviewed the updates from national and regional laboratories, considered the expert inputs from the international laboratory experts and prepared a set of recommendations for continuing and improving the laboratory coordination mechanism in South Asia.



Participants of the Fourth Laboratory Directors Meeting and Workshop for SAARC Member Countries, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Real Time FMD Training and Progressive Control of FMD in Nepal

Closely working with EU-FMD and the Governments of Australia and New Zealand as resource partners, RSU-SAARC, FAO ECTAD Nepal and Department of Livestock Services, Nepal, have jointly coordinated two such FMD trainings in Kathmandu during April-June 2016. About 33 veterinarians from Australia, New Zealand and Nepal attended the FMD outbreaks in the field and were trained in FMD outbreak investigation in real time situation.

NATIONAL LEVEL MEETINGS, WORKSHOP & TRAININGS Bhutan

3rd National One Health Workshop on "Multidisciplinary Holistic Approach Towards Strengthening Collaboration at Human-Animal-Environment Interface" was held in Thimphu from 20-22 June 2016. About 33 experts belonging to health, livestock and wild life sectors from Bhutan attended the Workshop. The objectives of the Workshop was to strengthen collaboration across the sectors for the prevention and control of zoonoses beside finalization of the One Health Strategic Plan (2017-2021) for Bhutan

Pakistan

57 veterinarian and 88 Para veterinarians from remote areas of Baluchistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa were trained in FMD diagnosis, sample collection and shipment under an FAO sponsored programme. A total of 145 sample collection kits were distributed to the trainees to facilitate appropriate sample collection and dispatch to diagnostic laboratories.

National Reference Laboratory for Poultry Diseases (NRLPD) trained about twenty seven professionals from provincial and national labs in proficiency testing, outbreak handling and follow up reporting.

Major Activities at SAARC Regional Diagnostic Laboratories

The National Reference Laboratories for poultry Diseases (NRLPD) Islamabad, the designated Regional Leading Diagnostic Lab (RLDL) screened 5807 biological samples from commercial / backyard poultry, wild and migratory birds collected from 700 farmers at 24 different sites. No evidence

for HPAI (H5 and H7) antibodies or virus could be found in any of the samples. However, NDV and AIV H9, besides some bacterial agents, could be recovered from 64 isolates. The biological and molecular characterization of AIV H9, NDV and co-circulating poultry pathogens revealed significant genetic diversity among the new isolates of AIV H9N2, NDV, IBV and Astro virus in Pakistan. (Source: NRLPD report)



GUEST IN RSU-SAARC

Program Officer, ADB visited Regional Support Unit for SAARC

Mr AhsanTayyab, Program Officer of the ADB-funded project paid a visit to the RSU Office and met the RSU team. He was informally briefed on the progress of the project thus far and the proposed activities planned for the next six months.

STAFF UPDATE

Dr Ravi Dissanayake, has resigned on 31 March 2016 from his position of Disease Information and Data Expert in Regional Support Unit to pursue his doctoral studies in Australia.

UPCOMING EVENTS

At National Level

INDIA

- Training Program on Advances in Livestock Disease Surveillance: Integration of Molecular Biology and Statistical Methods in veterinary Epidemiology, 1-10 September 2016, National Institute of Veterinary Epidemiology and Disease Informatics, Bengaluru, Karnataka.

NEPAL

- Field Epidemiological Training Level II for Veterinary, Medical and Public Health Professionals (Batch-1), 31 July - 12 August 2016, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Field Epidemiological Training Level II for Veterinary, Medical and Public Health Professionals (Batch-2), 21 August - 2 September 2016, Kathmandu, Nepal.



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