



05 Oct: SAARC Regional Support Unit Website launched

A website of the Regional Support Unit (RSU) for SAARC countries has been launched. The website is established through the EU funded "Regional Coordination Programme on highly pathogenic and emerging diseases for South Asia." . <http://www.saarc-rsu-hped.org>

India:

11 Oct: Need to fight trans-boundary diseases

Minister of State for Agriculture and Food Processing Industries, on Wednesday called upon experts to evolve ways to fight trans-boundary diseases by expanding consultations. The three-day Expert Consultation is being jointly organized by ICAR and APAARI with the major objective to prioritize areas of collaboration and partnerships for managing trans-boundary diseases in the region. [[more](#)]

07 Oct: 250 cattle die from mysterious disease in Assam

A mysterious disease has claimed the lives of 250 cows and goats besides making 1200 others ill in lower Assam's Kamrup (Rural) district. The animals have severe bouts of shivering before they die. [[more](#)]

06 Oct: Man dies of rabies, 10th incident in as many months

A construction worker from Madurai died of rabies at the Government Rajaji Hospital (GRH) on Friday, making him the 10th victim to succumb to this deadly disease at the hospital in the last 10 months. Last year too, as many as 13 people died due to rabies at the GRH. [[more](#)]

04 Oct: Encephalitis outbreak kills 390 in India's Gorakhpur

At least 390 people, mostly children, have died in an outbreak of viral encephalitis in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh. Until 2005, the majority of deaths were caused by Japanese encephalitis, caused by a mosquito borne virus, doctors say. But in the past six years, children have been dying of other forms of viral encephalitis, the exact cause of which is unclear. [[more](#)]

04 Oct: Deaths from symptomatically identifiable furious Rabies in India: A nationally representative mortality survey

Researchers used an enhanced type of verbal autopsy (a structured interview of the relatives or close associates of the dead by non-medical staff with central medical coding by at least two doctors) to identify the causes of over 122,000 deaths in a large scale, representative sample in India in 2001–03. Using these data, authors estimate that in 2005 approximately 12,700 people died from symptomatically identifiable furious rabies. [[more](#)]

Pakistan:

11 Oct: Violations of rules in import of Australian sheep: Inquiry committee report released

A final report of the committee constituted by Secretary of Ministry of National Food Security and Research, Islamabad to probe the issue related to import of 21,000 diseased sheep from Australia, has revealed that government's set rules/criteria were bypassed while allowing the animals, once rejected by Bahrain, in the country. [[more](#)]

06 Oct: Crimean-congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF) poses a deadly threat ahead of Eidul Azha

Health experts termed the confirmation of CCHF in two patients from Choa Saidan Shah, a tehsil of the district Chakwal in the Rawalpindi division is alarming and said that the matter needs urgent attention as sacrificial animals have started arriving in the Rawalpindi division from far-flung areas of the country for sale before Eidul Azha. The sacrificial animals brought to Rawalpindi may carry ticks causing CCHF. [[more](#)]

Sri Lanka:

24 Sept: Carrier status of Leptospirosis among cattle in Sri Lanka: A zoonotic threat to public health

A total of 164 cattle kidney samples were collected from the meat inspection hall in Colombo city during routine inspection procedures conducted by the municipal veterinary surgeons. The results indicate that a high proportion of the sampled cattle harbour a variety of pathogenic *Leptospira* spp, which can serve as important reservoirs for human disease. [[more](#)]