



BANGLADESH

Bangladesh to be 'Global Disease Detection site'

27 Jan 2013: The US CDC designated Bangladesh as its eighth 'Global Disease Detection' site last year. The disease detection site would help in protecting people within Bangladesh and also around the world from 'threats to health whether infectious or non-infectious'. A Field Epidemiology Training Programme (FETP) would start late this year to train people who will find out any disease outbreak and stop it. A strong disease-monitoring system would help Bangladesh better understand 'what is spreading, where it spreads and what the burden of the disease is. At the same time, the world would be safer as any new strain emerging here will be known immediately and world can respond faster. [read more](#)

Nipah claims 2 more lives

27 Jan 2013: Health officials are on a wake-up call as the fatal bat-borne nipah virus continues to claim more lives in Bangladesh, showing an 'early spike' this year. The Director of the government's disease monitoring outfit, IEDCR, said two more died of the virus taking the total death toll this year to eight. The new deaths were from Pabna and Rajshahi while one 8-month old boy is struggling for life. The virus that infects a person only after drinking raw date sap and later can pass on to other people through contact is a cause of public health concern in Bangladesh since 2001, as it breaks out every year during January-April. [read more](#)

INDIA

Ban on export of poultry products comes to an end

29 Jan 2013: The three-month ban on export of eggs, chicken and other poultry products from India that was imposed by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) came to an end on January 26. Exporter bodies and top officials of the Union Government's Animal Husbandry Department (AHD) initiated action to resume export to countries that have imposed the ban. The OIE imposed the ban after the outbreak of the highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 (bird flu) at the Central Poultry Development Organisation at Hesaraghatta in Karnataka was confirmed on October 26, 2012. [read more](#)

Anthrax fear grips tiger sanctuaries in Karnataka

28 Jan 2013: A cattle died of anthrax at Bheemana Bidu on Mysore-Sultan Bathery road. Bheemana Bidu is located eight kilometers from Bandipur forest. Authorities have vaccinated over 700 cattle and 450 sheep in the affected region. The disease is now contained and there are no reports of death of livestock due to anthrax. In early November, a 10-year-old tusker died due to anthrax in Thalavadi range in Sathyamangalam forest bordering BRT tiger reserve. The diseases had claimed four elephants in Nagarahole and Bandipur tiger reserves nine years back. [read more](#)

MALDIVES

Maldives sends back goat shipment from Tamil Nadu

24 Jan 2013: Following the ban on importing live animals and meat to the Maldives from India's Tamil Nadu over anthrax fears, Health Protection Agency (HPA) has sent back a live goat shipment from that state. In a statement, HPA had said an outbreak of anthrax had been reported in two towns of India's Tamil Nadu. As a precautionary measure, the agency had banned import of live animals and meats from any State of Tamil Nadu until further notice. [read more](#)

OTHERS

World risks new bird flu surge if countries drop their guard

29 Jan 2013: The world risks a repeat of the disastrous 2006 bird flu outbreaks unless surveillance and control of this and other dangerous animal diseases is strengthened globally, FAO warns. "The continuing international economic downturn means less money is available for prevention of H5N1 bird flu and other threats of animal origin. This is not only true for international organizations but also countries themselves," says FAO CVO Juan Lubroth. Continued strict vigilance is required, however, given that large reservoirs of the H5N1 virus still exist in some countries in Asia and the Middle East, in which the disease has become endemic. Without adequate controls, it could easily spread globally as it did at its peak in 2006, when 63 countries were affected. [read more](#)

A stepwise approach for progressive control of brucellosis in animals

25 Jan 2013: The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is developing a roadmap for progressive control of brucellosis. The roadmap describes a sequence of activities that reduce brucellosis in livestock and humans, eventually leading to the self-declaration of brucellosis-free status as defined by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Terrestrial Animal Health Code. The four stages of the roadmap are carefully crafted to allow national veterinary authorities to identify the stage that corresponds to conditions in each livestock system in a particular zone or across the whole country. Veterinary authorities can then enter the most appropriate stage for each situation. [read more](#)