



BANGLADESH

13 Mar 2013: Five anthrax infected people found in Sirajganj district

Five anthrax infected people have been found again in Sirajganj district of Rajshahi division. The infected were inhabitants of Baghabari Pashchimpara village in Shahzadpur upazila of the district. The victims were infected by the disease after taking meat of a sick animal. The people, who were involved with slaughtering and processing the meat, have also got infected. The disease was first detected in Sirajganj in 2010. During the period, about 200 people in Shahzadpur, Ullapara and Belkuchi upazila were infected by the disease for taking sick animals. About 300 more people were also infected by the disease in 2011 and 2012. [read more](#)

12 Mar 2013: Suspected bird flu outbreak in Rajbari district of Dhaka division

More than 1800 chickens were culled and 400 eggs destroyed following detection of bird flu virus at a poultry farm at Kalyianpur village in Sadar upazila of Rajbari district on Sunday night. Farm owner said, he found several chickens dead at the farm on Friday and informed it to the livestock officer. The officer sent the dead chickens to Manikganj for laboratory test on Saturday. The following day, the laboratory confirmed the detection of bird flu. [read more](#)

INDIA

14 Mar 2013: Bird flu spreads to Madhepura district of Bihar, 800 chicken die

The avian flu was first noticed at Madheli and Jirwa panchayats under Shankerpur block in the district where chickens perished after dozing off and excreting green faeces in some of poultry farms. Madhepura district magistrate has dispatched the teams of the animal and fisheries resources department officials to different places and asked them to take firm steps to prevent the avian flu virus from spreading to other parts in the district. Meanwhile, over 300 chickens were culled in Kishanganj district during the last two days, and culling operation continues unabated in Purnia district also where the first symptoms of the avian flu virus surged into the open. [read more](#)

11 Mar 2013: Chicken, eggs banned in Kishanganj and Katihar districts of Bihar

As the bird flu scare spreads, Kishanganj and Katihar districts have now come under the high alert cover. Kishanganj's borders with West Bengal are now sealed and like in the case of Purnea, the sale of chicken and eggs has been banned across Kishanganj and Katihar districts. The government employees have been asked not to proceed on any leave and teams are being formed to kill the chickens. Kishanganj district animal husbandry officer said, "Though no case of bird flu has been reported from any part of the district, we are not taking any chances". The districts of Kishanganj and Purnia are the largest exporters of chicken to distant places in Bihar as well as Jharkhand, hence special care is being taken to prohibit the export of chickens from the two districts. [read more](#)

09 Mar 2013: HPAI in Purnea district of Bihar, Immediate notification sent to OIE

The outbreak started on 27/02/2013 in a poultry farm in Madhubani, Lanka Tola, Purnea, of Bihar State. There are 7000 susceptible birds in the poultry farm of which 338 birds died. Outbreak statistics shows an apparent morbidity rate of 4.83% and apparent case fatality rate of 4.83%. All susceptible birds were removed from the population through death, destruction and/or slaughter. Source of the outbreak(s) or origin of infection is so far unknown or inconclusive. Epidemiological investigation is ongoing. An intensive surveillance campaign has been launched in 10km radius zone. [read more](#)

SRI LANKA

13 Mar 2013: Colombo on red alert for novel coronavirus

The Department of Quarantine is on red alert following the outbreak of novel coronavirus, a disease similar to Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), in the Middle Eastern region. The disease prevalent in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait is expected to spread to other countries. Sri Lanka has been put on alert and the situation is closely monitored. World Health Organization (WHO) has directed there should be no restrictions on entry points, both at the airport and the sea port. There won't be any bar at the airport for passengers coming from the Middle East. As soon as the warning signals come from the WHO, the Department of Quarantine, in keeping with the rules and regulations, will be informing the line ministry, the epidemiology unit, the Medical Research institute and other relevant institutions. [read more](#)

OTHERS

06 Mar 2013: Countries must stop stigmatizing countries that report new diseases: WHO

WHO Director General says that in disease outbreaks, when you are doing well as a country or even as a city, you are vigilant, you are being responsible, you acted in accordance to international health regulations requirements, you do your global responsibility, you report ... you should deserve credit for having the capacity and the courage to tell the world. And the country capacity is much better than pre-SARS. Because of SARS, the world is in a much better position to detect events. And we have noticed that the time from event diagnosis to reporting to WHO has decreased tremendously. [read more](#)