



AFGHANISTAN

13 March: Soldiers provide overwatch during vaccination programme

Soldiers of the Zabul Agribusiness Development Team completed a four-day mission on March 7 to vaccinate and assess the livestock in Shin Kay district of Zabul province, Afghanistan. In the four villages, more than 1,500 cows, goats, and sheep were dewormed and vaccinated for anthrax, enterotoxaemia and foot-and-mouth disease. [read more](#)

BANGLADESH

16 Mar 2013: Four more identified with anthrax infection

Four people were identified with anthrax infection at Shahzadpur in Sirajganj district, the year's first anthrax outbreak in the country, Institute of Epidemiology, Diseases Control and Research (IEDCR) confirmed. All the four people had handled anthrax infected cows. However, another suspected case was identified by the local authorities which was not confirmed by the IEDCR. Its officials said the cow was infected with anthrax bacteria, and soon after the symptoms appeared, the owner slaughtered the cow. The people who handled the raw meat of the cow were infected, they said. The health experts called upon the people not to slaughter infected cows. The experts emphasised on vaccination of cattle as they said there was no chance of anthrax infection if the cow is vaccinated properly. [read more](#)

BHUTAN

15 Mar 2013: Rabies cases update for the last three months

As per the record of the National Centre for Animal Health (NCAH), Serbithang, a total of 12 animal death cases were recorded in different areas from January till first week of March 2013. All the samples were positive by Florescent Antibody Test (FAT) conducted at NCAH. The contact persons with these positive animals are undergoing post exposure treatment in human hospitals. The source of outbreak is inconclusive and is suspected to be from illegal movement of animals. [read more](#)

INDIA

14 Mar 2013: Rabies deaths causes concern over stray dog menace

The death of two women in two successive days at the Government Rajaji Hospital (GRH) Madurai due to rabies infection has raised concerns over the increasing menace of stray dogs in the city. Hospital authorities said that five persons died due to rabies infection in the hospital during the last three months alone compared to 12 deaths in the last one year. On an average, there were 10 deaths every year in the last five years due to rabies infection. Following the frequent deaths due to rabies, residents and local representatives have urged the corporation to intensify the vaccination and sterilization of stray dogs. [read more](#)

NEPAL

16 Mar 2013: Morang district on high alert following bird flu in Bihar India

A high alert has been sounded in Morang against bird flu, owing to an outbreak of avian influenza (H5N1) in Indian border district, Purniya of Bihar. According to the regional livestock quarantine office Biratnagar, import of poultry and poultry products, feed and vaccines from India has been banned in the district, bearing in mind the possibility of bird flu outbreak. The bird flu virus was detected in chickens at a Madhuwani-based poultry farm at Lankatole few days back. [read more](#)

OTHERS

19 Mar 2013: WHO updates guidance on novel coronavirus surveillance

The World Health Organization (WHO) yesterday updated its surveillance recommendations for the novel coronavirus (NCoV), advising clinicians to be wary of the virus even if patients with a severe respiratory illness have been confirmed to have another disease. The agency also offered specific surveillance advice to nations in which NCoV has been detected, as well as investigations and studies to conduct where cases are detected. The WHO previously updated its guidance on Nov 28, 2012. NCoV has infected at least 15 people worldwide, 9 of them fatally. Most cases have involved travel to or residence in the Middle East. [read more](#)