

# ECTAD South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

Funded by the European Union

Regional Support Unit and Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases for South Asia, FAO, Nepal

## INDIA

### 17 July 2013: Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University releases vaccine for swine fever

The Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TANUVAS) on Wednesday released a vaccine for classical swine fever. The classical swine fever is prevalent in Tamil Nadu and northeast parts of the country. The spread of this disease results in a loss of Rs 10 crore annually in the country. India had been administering the crystal violet vaccine to curb the disease in pigs earlier. But the vaccine was discontinued a few years ago because of some side effects. The new vaccine has been proved safe and potent without side effects. [read more](#)

### 15 July 2013: Congo fever confirmed in Amreli district of Gujarat

The state health department officials along with a team of Pune-based National Institute of Virology (NIV) is camping in Kariyana village in Babra taluka of Amreli district after the virology report of four persons who died last week tested positive for Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF). According to sources, seven people had lost their lives in fever a week ago in Kariyana village. Later on, the blood samples were sent to NIV for laboratory test. Sources said that more than 10 people from the village have been taking treatment at various hospitals in Rajkot and Ahmedabad. The village has around 5000 population and their main occupation is animal husbandry and agriculture. [read more](#)

## NEPAL

### 13 July 2013: Government sends samples of H5N1 virus to London lab to identify strain

The Directorate of Animal Health (DoAH) under the Ministry of Agriculture Development (MoAD) said that it has sent samples of H5N1 virus to a London-based laboratory to find out whether the virus seen in the Valley is of same strain that was identified in the past. The move of the DoAH comes following seven bird flu outbreaks in the capital in the last 10 days. Officials at DoAH said that the bird flu virus has been constantly changing its nature. The DoAH said that the virus has changed its form thrice since the first outbreak in 2009. The office is particularly suspicious about the nature of virus that has been spreading rampantly in the valley's poultry farms. [read more](#)

## PAKISTAN

### 14 July 2013: Growing concern: Foot-and-mouth disease plagues Mohmand agency

As people in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) keep livestock to sustain their livelihood, the government has opened veterinary hospitals in each agency. But farmers in Mohmand agency say there are no arrangements for animal vaccination at the facility in their area and many animals continue to die as the disease spreads. [read more](#)

### 14 July 2013: Ninety three peacocks die in Tharparkar in last 45 days

At least two more peacocks died here on Sunday due to a contagious disease spreading among the birds of the area and with this the total death count during this season has reached 93. According to reports, the peacocks died of newcastle disease, locally known as Ranikhet, while several other birds were also reported to be infected. [read more](#)

## OTHERS

### 10 July 2013: Moratorium on using live rinderpest virus lifted for approved research

A moratorium on using live rinderpest virus for approved research has been lifted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE). The moratorium followed the adoption of a Resolution in May 2011 by all OIE Member Countries that urged members to forbid the manipulation of rinderpest virus containing material unless approved by the Veterinary Authority and by FAO and OIE. The two organizations have now put in place strict criteria and procedures to follow in order to obtain official approval for any research proposals using rinderpest virus and rinderpest virus-containing materials. [read more](#)

### 09 July 2013: The duck genome and transcriptome provide insight into an avian influenza virus reservoir species

The duck genome possesses a contractive immune-related gene repertoire similar to those of the chicken and zebra finch, and it includes genes that are not present in the other three species whose genomes have been sequenced. In the analyses presented, researchers found that many genes were independently duplicated in the duck but not in the chicken genome. These results suggest that gene gain and loss have influenced the divergence of the four avian genomes and the evolution of their respective immune systems. [read more](#)