

ECTAD South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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BANGLADESH

24 July 2013: Epidemic in prawn farms: Farmers suffer heavy loss

Epidemic has been continuing in the prawn farms of Mogla Municipality and adjoining six unions of Bagerhat district for the last two months. Local farmers reported continuous death of prawns in their farms since last April owing to white spot disease. The overall production of prawns may be halved due to the epidemic in the area. While contacted, the local Senior Fisheries Officer, blamed poor farm management as the cause of death in the prawn farms. (Translated from Bangla) [read more](#)

20 July 2013: Deadly bacteria found in Gazipur soil

Scientists have recently found a fatal infectious bacterium in the soil of Kapasia in Gazipur, for the first time in Bangladesh. Known as Burkholderia pseudomallei, these bacteria can cause melioidosis, a rare disease that leads to serious infections of lung, blood and other organs, doctors and scientists say. [read more](#)

INDIA

22 July 2013: Increase in Japanese encephalitis (JE) cases in Assam

The district health department has stepped up surveillance after some cases of JE were reported in Kokrajhar, Assam. The health department kicked off an awareness campaign to prevent the spread of the disease. An 11-year-old girl is the latest victim of JE. The district health surveillance officer, said the girl is undergoing treatment at a private hospital in Guwahati and that her condition is improving. He said another case has been reported from the Gossaigaon area of the district. In June, two persons were diagnosed with JE. [read more](#)

18 July 2013: Survey to detect Crimean Congo haemorrhagic fever (CCHF) presence in domestic animals

National Institute of Virology (NIV) will conduct a nation-wide survey to detect the presence of CCHF in domestic animals after the highly contagious disease identified by NIV last year, claimed two lives in Gujarat last week. Director of NIV, told that of the seven deaths reported, five were undiagnosed. Two more deaths were reported last week - of a man and a woman of Kariyana village in Amreli district of Gujarat. For the survey, the lab has already received 5,000 blood samples from 15 states. Tests will be conducted after receiving 15,000 samples from other states. [read more](#)

16 July 2013: Hospitals across state receive Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) warning

The Maharashtra state government on Monday evening asked district administrations to report all cases in which "patients with unusual respiratory infections are not responding to regular drugs". The circular also asked officials to find out if such patients had recently visited any of the Gulf countries. The circular follows a communication that the Centre issued after a high-level meeting. [read more](#)

NEPAL

23 July 2013: Over 6,800 chickens culled in Kathmandu's two poultry farms

A rapid response team comprising vet officials and technicians culled 5,953 bird flu tainted chickens in a poultry farm in Thankot, Kathmandu. The team also destroyed 330 eggs and 1,450 kg chicken feed stored in the farm. Likewise, another team culled 756 bird flu infected chickens in a poultry farm in Kritipur-17, Kathmandu, the Directorate of Animal Health (DoAH) said. The team destroyed 1,339 eggs and 400 kg chicken feed found in the farm. The DoAH said that Monday's outbreak is 11th in the last three weeks. [read more](#)

PAKISTAN

20 July 2013: Suspected cases of Crimean-congo hemorrhagic fever in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province

The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Health Department has ordered the establishment of isolation wards to cope with a possible outbreak of Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever (CCHF), officials said. "We made this decision after discovering 2 people reportedly died from the disease, director-general of health services, told "The presence of the virus was not confirmed in the victims, but the government is not taking any chances." The virus also has killed about a dozen in Karachi, he said. [read more](#)

OTHERS

24 July 2013: New bat virus called closest known relative of MERS-CoV

The view that MERS-CoV (Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus) originated in bats gathered steam today with the report that a new coronavirus (CoV) found in the feces of a South African bat is more closely related to MERS-CoV than any other known virus. The scientists previously discovered that MERS-CoV is closely related to CoVs found in European Pipistrellus bats. They say their newly discovered virus is genetically much closer to MERS-CoV than the Pipistrellus viruses are. [read more](#)

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