



ECTAD South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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BANGLADESH

12 Jan 2014: Fears of Nipah virus (NiV) outbreak following two confirmed deaths in Rajshahi

Laboratory tests at the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) has confirmed that two boys aged 13 and 14 died from NiV infection at Shibaloy and Ghior of Manikganj district in the last week of December last year. Both of them died after being infected with the virus by drinking raw date palm sap (Khejurer Rosh). Sources said it was also suspected that the deaths of four more people including a five year old boy at the Rajshahi medical college hospital last week, may also be linked to NiV infection. [read more](#)

BHUTAN

09 Jan 2014: FAO funded emergency surveillance plan for H7N9

Although Bhutan is at present free of the new flu virus, A(H7N9), the national centre for animal health officials say, the country is “moderately at risk,” and calls for an urgent review of its preparedness and surveillance measures. Bhutan has received USD 110,000 for the surveillance plan which includes poultry value chains and implementing of risk based surveillance in the country. Bhutan is supposed to conduct surveillance and submit the report to FAO by May 2014. The FAO has equipped the center with diagnostic equipment to test blood or serum after collecting the samples for this purpose. [read more](#)

INDIA

13 Jan 2014: FMD outbreak cripples state dairy sector

The outbreak of foot and mouth disease in five states in south India is expected to lower the growth projections by 0.5 percent in the country, which otherwise expects an economic growth of 5 percent on the back of expansion in the agriculture sector. According to agri economists in Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, in the preliminary assumption, it is estimated that the country will incur a total direct loss of Rs 950 crores only on account of direct impact of the FMD in five South Indian states. This will lower the growth rate by 0.3 per cent to 0.45 per cent in the total GDP of the country, where livestock contributes to around 25 per cent of the output of the agricultural sector. [read more](#)

09 Jan 2014: Ban on cattle transport lifted in Kerala

State Animal Husbandry Department official said, cattle from other States would be allowed to be brought in through five border check posts from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. from Thursday. It was after reviewing the disease situation that the department took the decision to allow cattle transport through the check posts at Muthalamada and Walayar in Palakkad, Kumili in Idukki, Manjeswararam in Kasaragod and Parassala in Thiruvananthapuram. The government had banned the movement of cattle to the State since December 4. [read more](#)

09 Jan 2014: Veterinarians to help public health department fight zoonotic diseases

In an attempt to bring down the rising number of zoonotic diseases like rabies, leptospirosis, H1N1 and scrub typhus, the Tamil Nadu Directorate of Public Health is planning to bring in an expert in animal husbandry and veterinary sciences to their integrated diseases surveillance project. [read more](#)

PAKISTAN

01 Jan 2014: Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever (CCHF) – update

In week 52, 2013, no new CCHF cases were reported from any district. So far, total of 100 suspected, 64 confirmed CCHF cases and 20 deaths have been reported country wide in year 2013. In 2012, a total of 62 suspected cases were reported throughout the country with 41 cases confirmed and total 18 deaths; of which 13 deaths (CFR 31.7%) were reported of the lab confirmed cases and five deaths were reported as suspected CCHF cases. [read more](#)

OTHERS

08 Jan 2014: Coexistence of influenza H7N9 and H9N2 in poultry linked to human H7N9 infection and their genome characteristics

To explore the role of live poultry markets in the origin of the novel H7N9 virus, researchers systematically examined poultry and environmental specimens from local markets and farms in Hangzhou. RT-PCR identified specimens positive for the H7 and N9 genomic segments in all of the twelve poultry markets epidemiologically linked to ten human H7N9 cases. Chickens, ducks, and environmental specimens from the markets heavily contained mixed subtypes including H7, N9, H9, N2, and sometimes H5 and N1. Coexistence of H7N9 and H9N2 subtypes in chickens were further supported by metagenomic sequencing. [read more](#)