

ECTAD South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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NEPAL

12 Mar 2014: Smuggling of chicken, poultry products rise in Jhapa district

At a time when the Nepal is coming in terms with number of bird flu outbreaks, smuggling of chicken and other poultry products from India is rising in Jhapa district over the recent weeks. While many local residents and poultry entrepreneurs seem least bothered about the possible implication of such illegal and irresponsible act on public health, the role of law enforcement and customs authorities, too, is being questioned. [read more](#)

11 Mar 2014: Better zoonoses surveillance stressed

An international study has suggested that Nepal must adopt a better surveillance system to estimate the animal borne parasitic infections that claim more victims than malaria and are comparable to HIV/AIDS. A team of scientists from Belgium, Nepal, New Zealand, Switzerland and the Netherlands in a study titled "The burden of parasitic zoonoses in Nepal: A systematic review" recommended that the country needs a better surveillance system to accurately estimate animal-borne parasitic disease or 'parasitic zoonoses (PZs)'. The recent study estimates the public health burden of PZs in Nepal at 24,000 healthy years lost annually. [read more](#)

SRI LANKA

09 Mar 2014: FMD vaccine airlifted to save pigs

The Animal Production and Health Department has airlifted about 30,000 vials of foot and mouth disease vaccine from France as the disease spread to seven districts, including Gampaha. "We decided to treat it as an emergency situation and airlifted the vaccines to be used mainly on pigs," the department's Director General, said yesterday. He said the vaccine would be used mainly to immunise pigs in the affected districts from tomorrow as they spread the disease. Since the epidemic erupted last month, action was taken to ban animal slaughter or transportation in and from infected areas and vaccinate all cattle. No pigs, goats or buffaloes have been vaccinated till now although they are also susceptible to the disease. [read more](#)

08 Mar 2014: Beef, mutton and pork banned in Gampaha district

The slaughtering of cattle, goats and pigs, selling and transporting of beef, mutton and pork will be banned in the Gampaha district from today as several head of cattle with foot and mouth disease were detected. Animal Production and Health Department Director General said the gazette notification in this regard had been sent to the Government printer yesterday. Earlier stalls of beef, mutton and pork were closed in seven districts following the spread of the disease among cattle in those districts and now it has spread to the Western Province and the Southern Province as well, he said. Jaffna, Vavuniya, Mullaitivu, Ampara, Trincomalee, Anuradhapura and Puttalam were the seven districts in which the ban had been already in force. [read more](#)

OTHERS

12 Mar 2014: Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) – update

WHO has been informed of an additional three laboratory confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) infection. One case was reported from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on 11 March and two cases from Saudi Arabia on 5 March. Globally, from September 2012 to date, WHO has been informed of a total of 189 laboratory confirmed cases of infection with MERS-CoV, including 82 deaths. [read more](#)

11 Mar 2014: Human infection with avian influenza A(H7N9) virus – update

On 8 March 2014, the National Health and Family Planning Commission (NHFPC) of China notified WHO of three additional laboratory confirmed case of human infection with avian influenza A(H7N9) virus. The overall risk assessment has not changed. The previous report of avian influenza A(H7N9) virus detection in live poultry exported from mainland China to Hong Kong SAR shows the potential for the virus to spread through movement of live poultry, at this time there is no indication that international spread of avian influenza A(H7N9) has occurred. However as the virus infection does not cause signs of disease in poultry, continued surveillance is needed. [read more](#)