

# ECTAD South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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## BHUTAN

### 20 Mar 2014: Consultative workshop on influenza A(H7N9)

A three day national consultative workshop organized in order to enhance country's preparedness and contingency plan for H7N9 concluded on 19 March. The workshop adopted twelve resolutions. These included the need to have specific regional platform for sharing information on diseases, strengthen coordination and collaboration both at national and regional level in the preparedness and contingency planning of infectious diseases, the revised National Influenza Pandemic Preparedness Plan document 2014 for HPAI H5N1 to include the requirements for H7N9 as well, and the house proposed to seek technical and financial support of international agencies. More than forty participants along with the representatives from FAO attended the workshop, organized by the National Centre for Animal Health and FAO. [read more](#)

## INDIA

### 22 Mar 2014: Monkey fever outbreak in Karnataka

Monkey fever, a viral disease characterised by headache and haemorrhage, is sweeping through parts of Shimoga, Chikmagalur and Dakshina Kannada districts. Also called the Kyasanur Forest Disease (KFD), it spreads through the bite of a forest tick which carries the disease causing virus from monkeys and other hosts to humans. The Health Department has already recorded 74 cases of monkey fever, and has stepped up efforts to identify the affected, and take preventive measures in Thirthahalli and Hosanagar taluks of Shimoga and other affected districts. The department has deputed a mobile unit with a doctor and two nurses to create awareness among people about the disease. According to officials, they have covered 98 per cent of the houses in the targeted area in Shimoga and given 4,500 bottles of medicated oil to families who visit forests. [read more](#)

### 20 Mar 2014: Preventive foot and mouth disease vaccination campaign begins

The Animal Husbandry Department has launched a preventive foot and mouth disease vaccination drive in Tamil Nadu State, which will be completed by Friday. A senior officer in the department said the 21-day vaccination drive began on March 1. The department would also hold a mop up drive in which left out cattle would be covered. Till last Friday, a total of 45.15 lakh cattle had been administered the vaccine. Nearly 2,350 veterinary assistant surgeons with the help of 1,400 livestock inspectors, 310 trainee livestock inspectors and 150 veterinary interns were pressed into service for the drive. The team so far administered 54.67 lakh dosages of the vaccine. Another officer said the authorities identified nine districts in the State where they also administered vaccine for haemorrhagic septicaemia along with the foot and mouth disease vaccine simultaneously. [read more](#)

## SRI LANKA

### 23 Mar 2014: Ban on meat transport lifted in most districts

The Department of Animal Production and Health has lifted the temporary ban on the transport of meat from districts affected by the foot and mouth disease. An estimated 12,500 head of livestock are said to have been infected by the disease, which health sources said had no adverse impact on humans. "Since no new reports of fresh cases of infected cattle, or any other farm animal, had been reported we decided to lift the ban with immediate effect in most areas where it was imposed", Director General, Department of Animal Production and Health said. The districts where the ban had been lifted include Ampara with the exception of Kalmunai, Jaffna where an unofficial ban is in force, Puttalam except for one or two areas, the Gampaha district excluding Welisara and Jaela and Trincomalee except for two areas. "We will not lift the ban in Anuradhapura, Mullaitivu and Vavuniya as the disease still prevails in these districts", he said. [read more](#)

## OTHERS

### 22 Mar 2014: H7N9 detected in south China poultry farm, 80,000 chickens culled

The H7N9 bird flu virus has been found in a poultry farm in the southern city of Zhuhai in Guangdong province, the Provincial Agriculture Department confirmed on Thursday. Samples from live chickens were collected from Zhuhai Jinfeng Poultry Company in the Doumen district of the city and tested positive for H7N9 by the provincial center for animal disease control, the department said. The Department sent experts to the company and disposed of more than 80,000 live chickens. It also provided 5 tonnes of disinfectant. The samples were then sent to the Ministry of Agriculture's national laboratory and tested positive again for the virus on Tuesday, according to a statement from the department. [read more](#)