

# ECTAD South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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## BHUTAN

### 07 Apr 2014: Outbreak of foot and mouth disease (FMD) under control in Bumthang

Foot and mouth disease outbreak in Bumthang is now under control, say the Dzongkhag's veterinary officials. Most of the 25 cases reported over the past month have been treated. The first case of foot and mouth disease in Bumthang was reported from Chamkhar village on February 25. The disease had later spread to Jakar, Dekiling and Nagsiphel areas. There are still some cases being reported from Dekiling and Tamshing areas. "We are continuing with vaccination. We have also been advising the farmers to keep the infected cattle isolated to prevent the spread of the disease," said Bumthang's veterinary officer. [read more](#)

## INDIA

### 08 Apr 2014: Worst foot and mouth disease outbreak in decade in Tamil Nadu

The outbreak of foot and mouth disease in 2013-14 was the worst attack recorded in the state during the past decade. Documents reveal that the livestock numbering 64,260 were infected and 6,100 deaths were reported in 2013. The magnitude of attack looks enormous when considering the fact that the second maximum number of animals that got affected by FMD was 17,688, which was recorded in 2009. Ever since the Animal Husbandry Department began vaccination programme in 2005, the number of animals affected by FMD has always ranged between 200-1,000, not even exceeding 2,000. The lowest number of animals that got infected was recorded in 2012 when 287 animals were found infected with FMD. [read more](#)

### 06 Apr 2014: Anti rabies scheme falters as India is overrun with 30 million stray dogs

India's cities and towns are home to about 30 million stray dogs. In 2012, the WHO estimated that India accounts for 20,000 rabies cases each year, though the government and experts have disputed this figure. The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI), a statutory body under the Environment and Forests Ministry, is struggling to rope in NGOs and animal welfare groups to implement the recently approved National Rabies Control Pilot Project. But due to dearth of funds and outdated policies the government's two-pronged programme to control their numbers through sterilisation and to prevent the spread of rabies has been hanging fire. [read more](#)

## NEPAL

### 10 Apr 2014: H1N1 flu cases on rise

An influenza virus has started raising its ugly head with an increase in the number of people detected with the flu. Six people have died while 31 are detected positive with an H1N1 influenza 'A' commonly known as swine flu since January this year. The first casualty of the virus was detected in Nepal when a patient died in New Delhi after being referred from Norvic Hospital in January. A patient died in Patan Hospital two days back which the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) of the government confirmed was due to the flu. [read more](#)

### 10 Apr 2014: Some 150 cattle die of foot and mouth disease in Darchula district

Some 150 cattle heads perished to foot and mouth disease in Darchula district in the past few months, a senior veterinarian at the District Livestock Office, said. Outbreak of the disease has spread to 24 village development committees (VDC) in the district and is yet to be controlled. Khalanga and Dhap VDC are in high risk of the disease. Meanwhile, over 10,000 cattle heads in the district have been already vaccinated against the disease so far and the vaccination campaign is still underway, the Office said. [read more](#)

## SRI LANKA

### 07 Apr 2014: Eastern district of Trincomalee lifts ban on cattle slaughter

The ban on cattle slaughter in Sri Lanka's Eastern Trincomalee district has been lifted with effect from April 1st, according to local media reports. Cattle slaughter was banned in the district following the outbreak of foot and mouth disease. The ban on slaughtering cattle came into effect from February 19th following a gazette notification by Provincial Animal Husbandry and Production Ministry of the Eastern Provincial Council. [read more](#)

## OTHERS

### 03 April 2014: Call to stay alert for influenza A(H7N9) in China

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) urges people to stay alert for influenza A(H7N9), especially in light of the upcoming Qingming festival on 5 April 2014, which is celebrated in China and some of its neighbouring countries and will last approximately three days. Even if reports on influenza A(H7N9) have declined in recent world news, there is a need to remain cautious with the increased evidence that the H7N9 virus continues spreading in poultry in China. [read more](#)

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