

ECTAD South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

Funded by the European Union

Regional Support Unit and Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases for South Asia, FAO, Nepal

BANGLADESH

16 June 2014: Bangladesh reports first MERS-CoV case

Bangladesh yesterday reported its first case of MERS-CoV after a Bangladesh born US resident was admitted to hospital days after returning to his homeland via Abu Dhabi. The condition of the unidentified 53 year old man had improved but he was still in intensive care in a Dhaka clinic. The director of the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research, said, he is Bangladesh born but lives in the US. He came to the country on June 4 and became sick two days later. Most probably he contracted the virus during the three hours at Abu Dhabi airport or in the plane, he said. [read more](#)

BHUTAN

16 June 2014: Rabies outbreak in Sarpang dzongkhag

With Gelephu experiencing a rabies outbreak, the regional referral hospital saw 120 people turn up for anti rabies vaccination within the past three weeks. Those receiving the vaccines are people who consumed dairy products and meat of infected cattle. Last month, nine cows, bitten by rabid dog in lower Pelrithang, Umling and Sershong, died. Three more infected by rabies are tethered for fear of harming and infecting people. Two rabid dogs in Shershong were put down. In other gewogs, the dogs were not tracked down. Health officials said, rabies has become common in Sarpang district, with cases reported every year. The number, is alarming, and worrying because anti rabies vaccination will not be enough if all people rush in. [read more](#)

INDIA

16 June 2014: Free vaccination for foot and mouth disease in Punjab

The Punjab government on Monday instructed Animal Husbandry Department to provide free vaccination to check the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in the state and asked farmers to get their cattle vaccinated in the nearest veterinary hospitals. An official said, that the state government was alive to the necessity of checking the outbreak of FMD and therefore decided to fix accountability of erring employees in this case. The campaign would continue up to June 20. "It is for the first time that the FMD vaccination has been brought in the ambit of Right to Service Act (RTS), where every aggrieved citizen has a right to complain to the authorities," he said. [read more](#)

16 June 2014: Encephalitis spreading in Bihar, 92 children dead

Fifteen more children died in Bihar of suspected encephalitis in the past 24 hours as the disease spread to new districts. Thirteen children died of the suspected Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) on Sunday while two children died on Monday, taking the death toll to 92, health officials said. The disease, which was limited to Muzaffarpur district till last week, has now spread to at least half a dozen districts across the state. Cases of AES reported from Vaishali, Samasipur, Sheohar, East Champaran, Sitamarhi, Begusarai, Gaya and Patna districts. But Muzaffarpur remains the worst affected by encephalitis followed by Sitamarhi and east Champaran districts, health officials said. [read more](#)

14 June 2014: Cows hit by FMD produce less milk in Karnataka

The inspection committee of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services (AHVS) found 55,580 head of cattle infected with FMD, of which nearly 14,441 died as a result of the FMD outbreak reported in last September. The cattle that survived have been cured of FMD, but are suffering from fever and salivation, which have made the animals dull, resulting in lowered milk production. An official from the Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) said milk production and quality of the milk had gone down and many cows were having problems conceiving. The cows that were yielding 10-12 liters of milk a day were now yielding only 7-8 liters per day. An official said the large scale outbreak was also due to the negligence of many dairy farmers who either denied or delayed the vaccination of their cattle. [read more](#)

14 June 2014: West Nile virus reported in India

Indian researchers have reported three laboratory confirmed cases of West Nile virus induced acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) for the first time in India, a syndrome historically associated with infection by polio virus. The symptom is the most common sign of acute polio and is used for surveillance during polio outbreaks. However, unlike polio which is a childhood disease, West Nile induced AFP is seen in adults. So, the finding is not going to undermine the success of polio free certification, say researchers, but is still reason for concern. [read more](#)