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INDIA

13 Dec 2014: One-horned rhino dies of anthrax in Tripura

A 24-year-old single horn rhino died in the zoo of Sepahijala sanctuary Friday, about 35 km from here due to anthrax. "It was found that the rhino was lying on the ground with blood oozing out of its nose and anus. The zoo authorities contacted a Guwahati-based veterinary specialist for remedies, but the rhino could not take the oral medicine and died. read more

14 Dec 2014: Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) virus rears its head again

After the city reported the first CCHF virus death of a Bhuj resident at a Paldi hosiptal, local health authorities have put 33 individuals at Aarna Hospital under medical surveillance. They are being administered chemoprophylaxis - medication to prevent disease or infection. Just like Ebola virus, CCHF affects people, who come in immediate contact with a patient relatives and medical staff attending to them. read more

17 Dec 2014: Bird flu scare in Chandigarh after duck sample tests positive

Chandigarh was hit by a bird flu scare after the sample of a duck found dead at the famous Sukhna lake tested positive for the H5N1 (avian flu) virus, an official said. "Of the six samples sent to Bhopal for investigation, one sample was found positive for H5N1," a spokesman of the Chandigarh administration said. Nearly 30 ducks at the lake had died under mysterious circumstances in recent days. The Sukhna lake has nearly 250 ducks which are a star attraction for visitors. read more

18 Dec 2014: Bird flu under control in Kerala

Kerala government said the avian influenza, which had hit the duck-rearing Central Kerala's Kuttanad region has been brought under control. So far, 1.80 lakh ducks have been culled and the operation would be windup on Monday with culling of another batch of 50,000 poultry. read more

PAKISTAN

12 Dec 2014: Two more CCHF patients admitted to JPMC

Two more people with CCHF were admitted to Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Center for treatment while condition of one patient was reported critical. Joint Executive Director and In-charge, Emergency Department Dr Seemin Jamali confirmed that the two more patients with Congo fever had been admitted to a hospital for treatment and condition of one patient was critical. red more

OTHER

16 Dec 2014: H5N2, H5N8 avian flu viruses surface in US

US authorities today reported finding wild birds in Washington state infected with two different highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) viruses, H5N2 and H5N8, raising questions about possible connections with recent H5N2 outbreaks across the border in Canada and with an Asian H5N8 strain that is now hitting European poultry farms. In reports to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) said H5N2 was found in a wild pintail duck, while H5N8 was found in a captive wild gyrfalcon that was fed on hunter-killed birds. read more

17 Dec 2014: Ebola leaves hundreds of thousands facing hunger in three worst-hit countries

The number of people facing food insecurity due to the Ebola epidemic in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone could top one million by March 2015 unless access to food is drastically improved and measures are put in place to safeguard crop and livestock production, two UN agencies warned today. The disease's impact is potentially devastating in the three countries already coping with chronic food insecurity, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) said in three country reports published today. Border closures, quarantines, hunting bans and other restrictions are seriously hindering people's access to food, threatening their livelihoods, disrupting food markets and processing chains, and exacerbating shortages stemming from crop losses in areas with the highest Ebola infection rates, the FAO-WFP reports stressed. read more