



ECTAD South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

INDIA

04 Mar 2015: Vaccination drive against foot-and-mouth disease

The eighth round of vaccination against foot-and-mouth disease for cattle in villages across the district has commenced. Officials said, a total of 5.46 lakh cattle will be covered in the drive. Earlier, the cattle were vaccinated against the disease annually. Once in six months "In the last few rounds, we have started to vaccinate the ruminants once in six months. We have been able to provide 100 percent immunity this way. Cattle reared in 743 panchayats across the district will be covered in the vaccination drive that is on from March 1 to 21. [read more](#)

NEPAL

03 Mar 2015: Study urged to determine virus strain

With the rise in cases of H1N1 influenza in the country, experts have urged the government to conduct thorough analysis of the swine flu virus to determine if it has the potential to cause an epidemic. Conducting a genetic analysis of the virus, experts say, could help policy makers determine if the virus is similar to one that is wreaking havoc in India. A total of 48 patients have been diagnosed with swine flu in the country so far while a woman succumbed to the disease on Saturday in Kathmandu. [read more](#)

05 Mar 2015: First wildlife hospital to be constructed

Chitwan is likely to witness the first ever veterinary hospital in the district. Minister for Forest and Land Conservation Mahesh Acharya today laid the hospital's foundation stone at Sauraha, the entrance site of Chitwan National Park, amid a special function. According to animal conservationists, the hospital aims to treat disabled and ill animals found in and around the national park in order to protect them. Sources said, the hospital will be constructed within a year with an estimated cost of 20 million rupees. Denbar Zoo, USA and WWF Nepal have agreed to jointly offer 10 million rupees for the construction. [read more](#)

PAKISTAN

03 Mar 2015: Spatial cluster analysis of human cases of Crimean Congo hemorrhagic fever reported in Pakistan

Crimean Congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF) is a tick-borne viral zoonotic disease that has been reported in almost all geographic regions in Pakistan. The aim of this study was to identify spatial clusters of human cases of CCHF reported in country. The analyses revealed a large multi-district cluster of high CCHF incidence in the uplands of Balochistan province near its border with Afghanistan. The cluster comprised the following districts: Qilla Abdullah; Qilla Saifullah; Loralai, Quetta, Sibi, Chagai, and Mastung. [read more](#)

NEIGHBOURING COUNTRY

MYANMAR

28 Feb 2015: Confirmed 3 outbreaks in Monywa, Sagaing

The government has confirmed 3 avian flu outbreaks in poultry farms in upper Burma, according to an announcement in state-run media on Thursday. A statement released by the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development said that a number of chickens and quail have been found dead at poultry farms in Monywa, Sagaing Division since Feb. 10, leading to a laboratory confirmation of the presence of the H5N1 influenza virus in the animal carcasses. [read more](#)

OTHERS

25 Feb 2015: 90 percent of Gulf camels are MERS-CoV infected

About 90 percent of camels in the Gulf region are carriers of the MERS-CoV, which requires the urgent need for a vaccine, according to a leading Health Ministry official. In addition, the virus can be transmitted over a 1 meter distance, Abdullah Asiri, undersecretary for preventative health at the ministry, was quoted as saying in a local publication. Asiri said that 50 per cent of camels in Al-Ahsa region carry the virus. A person who comes into contact with infected camels can transmit the virus to family members without showing symptoms of the disease. [read more](#)

02 Mar 2015: Saudi Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) deaths reach 400 as cases surge

Saudi Arabia's surge of MERS-CoV cases and deaths continues into March, with 15 more cases reported over the past 3 days, as well as 6 additional deaths, pushing the country's fatality count to 400, according to statements from the Saudi Ministry of Health (MOH). Thirteen of the new cases are from Riyadh, with 2 reported in Buraydah, the capital of Al Qassim region, which is 220 miles northwest of Riyadh. All of the patients are adults, ages 34 to 80, and all but four are men. All 15 of the latest MERS-CoV case-patients are symptomatic, with 9 hospitalized in critical condition and 6 listed as stable. [read more](#)