



ECTAD South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

INDIA

20 May 2015: Health department revs up pre-rain drive

Pre-monsoon cleaning activities to prevent the spread of epidemics have begun in the state. This year, as many as 392 dengue fever cases and 163 cases of leptospirosis have been reported. The health department has warned that once monsoon sets in, the figures might go up if adequate precautionary measures are not taken. [read more](#)

21 May 2015: Six children tested positive for encephalitis in Bihar

As the climate takes a turn again, the deadly brain fever (Acute Encephalitis Syndrome) has started taking small kids in its clutches. The disease is prevalent since the past many years in Muzaffarpur and other parts of Bihar. The disease has taken one life till yet. Sheela, a four year-old kid succumbed to AES in Muzaffarpur on Wednesday. [read more](#)

25 May 2015: 40 persons suspected of contracting anthrax in WB district

Forty persons were suspected to have contracted anthrax in West Bengal's Bankura villages following which teams of dermatologists were rushed there, official said on Monday. The Chief medical officer, health, Prasun Kumar Das, today said that forty persons were affected in Simplipal block of Bakura district and two teams of dermatologists were being sent to Bamunpal and Ramakunda villages of the block from where villagers have reported death of cattle. The teams will collect samples and send them to Kolkata for examination. [read more](#)

27 May 2015: Anthrax Scare near Hasanur

Even as the carcass of a 20-year-old male elephant that died of anthrax at Neerodai near Hasanur in the Sathyamangalam forest has been safely disposed, the Animal Husbandry Department is vaccinating cattle in the eight km radius as a precaution. The elephant that had died two days ago was buried on Monday in a 15-foot pit and the surface was burnt as a precaution to prevent spread of the disease to other animals. Alongside burning the surface of the spot of burial, a team also dug out half feet of the spot where the elephant was found dead, and sprinkled a mixture of turmeric and calcium, Hasanur Range Officer S. Palanisamy said. This is the second incident of elephant death due to anthrax. Last December, an adult elephant had died due to anthrax in Bhavani Sagar range. [read more](#)

PAKISTAN

23 May 2015: Mysterious disease kills 48 camels

A mysterious disease is broken out once again in Thal that has claimed the lives of more than 48 camels during the past one month. As per details, 48 camels have died in the villages of Khatwan, Bambool, Jamali, Dadoowala, Jharkil and Palwan in what seems to be a fresh wave of a mysterious disease's spread. The camels died suddenly in the presence of doctors of the Veterinary Department. Affected farmers said that their camels were healthy, but died all of a sudden. Livestock Deputy Officer Dr Nussrat said that blood samples had been taken to detect the cause of death of the animals. [read more](#)

SRI LANKA

29 March 2015: Cattle Deaths: Authorities play it down

Over 210 cattle and buffaloes are reported to have died in the districts of Anuradhapura, Batticaloa, Polonnaruwa and Ratnapura since December last year, according to the Department of Animal Production and Health (DAPH). This is reported that in the livestock industry, each year up to 3-4 per cent of the total population could die due to various causes and it was no reason for alarm. In Sri Lanka he said that there are around 38,000 cattle and buffaloes and the number reported to have died is well within the expected range and as such there was no reason for panic. The investigations carried out by the Livestock Department had revealed four possible reasons which caused the considerable number of deaths and they were Pneumonic Pasteurellosis, Amphistomiasis or paramphistomiasis, worm conditions (internal parasites) and also the fact that the recent drought and the floods had made the animals weak, which would have made them more susceptible to disease. [read more](#)

OTHERS

22 May 2015: Vaccines developed for H5N1, H7N9 avian influenza strains

A recent study with Kansas State University researchers details vaccine development for two new strains of avian influenza that can be transmitted from poultry to humans. The strains have led to the culling of millions of commercial chickens and turkeys as well as the death of hundreds of people. The new vaccine development method is expected to help researchers make vaccines for emerging strains of avian influenza more quickly. This could reduce the number and intensity of large-scale outbreaks at poultry farms as well as curb human transmission. [read more](#)