

## ECTAD South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

### FAO NEWS ON NEPAL FOOD SECURITY

**19 June 2015: More than \$20 million urgently needed to help Nepal's farmers recover from earthquake**

*One million people estimated at risk of prolonged food insecurity*

Some \$20 million is urgently needed to support farmers in earthquake-hit Nepal resume agricultural activities and stave off the threat of prolonged food insecurity facing an estimated one million people, FAO warned today. To date, only 13 percent has been received of the \$23.4 million in emergency agricultural assistance which FAO estimates is required, as part of the revised UN Flash Appeal for Nepal. Two separate earthquakes and a series of aftershocks struck in April and May killing more than 8,000 people and devastating large parts of the country. The disaster has also heavily disrupted agricultural activities threatening the livelihoods of rural families. [read more](#)

### INDIA

**11 Jun 2015: Kerala to Produce Goat Plague Vaccine**

Kerala state will commence production of its own Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) vaccine to protect the state's two million sheep and goats. The vaccine will be developed by the Institute for Animal Health and Veterinary Biologicals (IAHVB) at Palode, Kerala with assistance from the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI) at Mukteshwar, Bareilly district in Uttar Pradesh state.

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**12 Jun 2015: Anthrax scare now alarming**

An anthrax alert has been sounded in Simdega following six people exhibiting its symptoms today, a death last week and two more last month that Ranchi experts confirmed were due to the fatal cattle disease, triggering mega training for grassroots health workers. Half a dozen people, with anthrax symptoms in Kondigi village of Thethaitangar block in Simdega, were admitted to the block health centre today. [read more](#)

**12 Jun 2015: Indian firm to launch world's first pig vaccine for Cysticercosis**

Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL), an Indian government owned subsidiary of the National Dairy Development Board (NDRI), is planning to launch the world's first pig vaccine for porcine cysticercosis by December 2016. The company has teamed up with Scotland-based GALVmed and the University of Melbourne to make the livestock vaccine at a commercial scale. The disease, which is classified as a neglected tropical disease by the World Health Organization (WHO), is a parasitic infection that can cause brain disorders like epilepsy or seizures in humans. [read more](#)

**14 Jun 2015: A string of attacks by dogs leave Kochi whimpering**

As many as 23 cases of dog bites were reported in the district on Saturday, fuelling concerns over the increasing instances of canine attacks that stood at 273 in June. District animal health officer, Dr Razia Konthalam allayed fears and said that all dog bites won't cause rabies. "It is not true that dogs bite only when they are rabid. Stray dogs that feed on meat waste tend to be ferocious and are likely to attack people," she said, adding that rabid dogs die within 10 days. [read more](#)

**16 Jun 2015: India launches diagnostic foot and mouth disease kit**

The Indian Council for Agriculture Research (ICAR) will oversee the release of the DIVA Diagnostic Kit for Foot and Mouth Disease, developed by Arsh Biotech Pvt Ltd. During the launch Dr. KML Pathak, Deputy Director General (Animal Science), ICAR said, this is the best demonstration of Make in India initiative and the partnership has set a stage for industries and technology developers to exchange skills and knowledge and create business opportunities in animal health sector. [read more](#)

### SRI LANKA

**19 Jun 2015: AH1N1 claims 24 persons**

A total of 24 persons have died from Influenza AH1N1. Of this, 10 were pregnant mothers, consultant community physician Dr. Kapila Jayaratne said. Meanwhile, Epidemiology Unit sources said pregnant mothers should seek prompt medical treatment for flu like symptoms if their condition does not improve within 48 hours. [read more](#)

### OTHERS

**11 Jun 2015: Responsible use of veterinary medicines and sustainable animal production: Key to global food security and affordability**

Responsible use of veterinary medicines and sustainable animal production play a crucial role in securing animal health and provisioning a safe, secure and sustainable food supply. That was the conclusion of the "Healthy Animals, Healthy Food, a Healthy Future" conference organized by the International Federation for Animal Health - Europe (IFAH-Europe). The event attracted an audience of over 100 European animal health and agrifood-chain stakeholders, policy makers. [read more](#)