

South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

BANGLADESH

04 Sep 2015: Human infection with an avian influenza A(H9N2) virus in Bangladesh

One laboratory confirmed case of human infection with an avian influenza A(H9N2) virus was reported to WHO from Bangladesh. The case was a 3.5-year-old girl who developed mild illness on 1 February 2015 and recovered from her illness by 7 February. An influenza A(H9) virus was detected upon testing of a respiratory sample from the case and the virus was later confirmed as an influenza A(H9N2) virus, similar to other A(H9N2) viruses previously isolated in Bangladesh. The case had close contact with poultry, including sick quails, prior to her onset of illness. No further cases were detected among her close contacts. This is the second case of human infection with an avian influenza A(H9N2) virus reported to WHO from Bangladesh. The previous case occurred in 2011. Avian influenza A(H9N2) viruses are known to be circulating in poultry populations in Bangladesh. [read more](#)

INDIA

20 Sep 2015: Veterinary health camp held

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Vellore region in association with All India Radio (AIR), Chennai and Thandalam Yogashema Trust, Chennai jointly organised a mega veterinary health camp at Thandalam village in Kaveripakkam panchayat union, Arakkonam taluk on Saturday. A total of 761 cattle heads were vaccinated against foot and mouth disease in the ninth round of vaccination. The vaccines were administered to the livestock free of cost. In addition, 210 sheep, 395 goats and 165 cows were dewormed at the camp. [read more](#)

19 Sep 2015: Vaccine to prevent bluetongue disease in sheep hits the market

A new vaccine developed by the Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TANUVAS) to prevent bluetongue disease in sheep has hit the market, said its vice-chancellor Dr S Thilagar here on Friday. Besides, trial has been started on a vaccine for swine fever and oral pellet vaccine for country chicken. Highlighting the necessity for bringing out a vaccine to prevent bluetongue disease, he said, "TANUVAS has developed a vaccine for bluetongue disease and transferred the technology to Indian Immunology Society for manufacturing the vaccine. The vaccine has been made available everywhere to prevent sheep from being infected by the virus." [read more](#)

18 Sep 2015: Government comes out with new biosecurity norms for poultry farms

The government has come out with new biosecurity norms for poultry farms to prevent outbreak of diseases and maintain basic sanitary conditions essential for healthy birds and hygienic products. The biosecurity guidelines were last issued in 2013. The norms have been revised in light of latest developments and to incorporate some practices in vogue to make them more effective, the Agriculture Ministry said in a statement. Releasing the guidelines today, the Ministry said, "The General Guidelines for Biosecurity at Central Poultry Development Organizations (CPDOs) were revised so that the basic tenets can be applied not only to CPDOs but also state and private poultry farms." [read more](#)

PAKISTAN

23 Sep 2015: Eid holidays: contingency plan evolved for healthcare services

The Punjab Health Department has evolved a contingency plan to provide round-the-clock quick healthcare during the Eid holidays. Directions have been issued to principals of all autonomous medical colleges in the Punjab, medical superintendents of all teachings hospitals and district and tehsil headquarters hospitals, heads of special health institutions, executive district officers and the director general and director of health services. "They have been told to provide efficient medical cover including standby arrangements for medical, surgical or special care expected in case of an emergency. They have also been asked to ensure availability of senior administrators and medical staff besides issuing emergency duty rosters, emergency situation crisis management plans, life saving medicines, vaccines, disposables, linen and reserve beds," Health Department sources said.

[read more](#)

OTHERS

23 Sep 2015: Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) – Kuwait

On 19 September 2015, the National IHR Focal Point of Kuwait notified WHO of 1 additional fatal case of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) infection. A 78-year-old male from Kuwait city developed symptoms on 8 September and, on 13 September, was admitted to hospital. The patient, who had comorbidities, tested positive for MERS-CoV on 14 September. The patient owned dromedary camels and had a history of frequent contact with them. He had no history of exposure to other known risk factors in the 14 days prior to the onset of symptoms. The patient passed away on 19 September. Contact tracing of household and healthcare contacts is ongoing for this case. Globally, WHO has been notified of 1,570 laboratory confirmed cases of infection with MERS-CoV, including at least 555 related deaths. [read more](#)