

South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

Regional Support Unit for South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (RSU-SAARC)

BANGLADESH

01 Oct 2015: New guideline soon to promote domestic production of cows

The Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MoFL) is set to formulate soon a new guideline aiming at attaining self-sufficiency in producing cows locally and reducing dependency on import from neighbouring countries. The Ministry's move also aims at going without import of cows mainly from India from next year as the local farmers showed their capability in fulfilling demand for sacrificial animals during the just ended Eid-ul-Azha this year. [read more](#)

INDIA

05 Oct 2015: Drive against foot and mouth disease in Kozhikode, Kerala

The Department of Animal Husbandry has made all arrangements for the 19th round of vaccination to protect domestic animals from foot and mouth disease (FMD). The officials have formed 141 squads for the vaccination process during the three weeks intensive drive from October 7 which is to cover one lakh cattle and 5,000 pigs in the district. The mass vaccination drive is being carried out as part of the state-wide drive proposed to wipe out FMD. The squad, led by a livestock inspector will carry out the vaccination by conducting door-to-door visits and camps in selected areas in the panchayat limit. A major outbreak of FMD was reported in 15 panchayats in the district in 2013. No death has been reported for the past two years following the intensive vaccination drive conducted by the veterinary officials. [read more](#)

05 Oct 2015: Foot and mouth disease outbreak in Odisha

The foot and mouth disease of cattle locally called as 'fatua' in Nischintakoili block has put the veterinary officials in a tight spot as they face inadequate stock of vaccine coupled with staff crunch. Officials sources said about 30 cattle have died of the disease in the block during the last two weeks. But, non-official sources put the toll at more than 70. The viral disease was first noticed in Nischintakoili Barik Sahi 15 days back when three cows of a farmer died in one day and later the disease started spreading to other parts of the block. A surveillance team from district veterinary office reached Nischintakoili and took samples from 10 affected cattle and later confirmed it as foot and mouth disease. [read more](#)

05 Oct 2015: Spectre of diseases haunts Gujarat

While malaria, dengue and Influenza A H1N1 continue to give health authorities in major Gujarat cities sleepless nights, cases of acute encephalitis syndrome (AES) and Congo fever are emerging as the new worry factors for state health authorities. In the past five weeks there has been 45 suspected cases of AES and three places have reported Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever (CCHF) Lakadiya village in Bhachau, Vadala village in Mundra, both in Kutch and the third being Desai Purakampa village in Bayad in Arvalli district. This has already set alarm bells ringing in the state health department. [read more](#)

01 Oct 2015: Cross-sectional Serosurvey of Crimean-congo hemorrhagic fever virus IgG in livestock, India, 2013–2014

A cross-sectional serosurvey of Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF) was conducted among livestock in 22 states and 1 union territory of India. A total of 5,636 samples from bovines, sheep, and goats were screened for CCHF virus IgG. IgG was detected in 354 samples, indicating that this virus is widespread in this country". [read more](#)

PAKISTAN

06 Oct 2015: Another Congo virus patient dies in Quetta, Balochistan

One more patient of Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF) virus died in Quetta here on Tuesday, taking death toll to 15 in the country. The patient was pronounced dead at Fatima Jinnah Chest and General Hospital in Quetta, taking the toll to three in three days whereas as many as 15 patients have been reportedly died due to Congo virus across the country this year. Nine Congo virus patients are still under treatment at different hospitals. [read more](#)

OTHERS

06 Oct 2015: Spillover and pandemic properties of zoonotic viruses with high host plasticity

"We examine the animal hosts and transmission mechanisms involved in spillover of zoonotic viruses to date, and discover that viruses with high host plasticity were more likely to amplify viral spillover by secondary human-to-human transmission and have broader geographic spread. Viruses transmitted to humans during practices that facilitate mixing of diverse animal species had significantly higher host plasticity. Our findings suggest that animal-to-human spillover of new viruses that are capable of infecting diverse host species signal emerging disease events with higher pandemic potential in that these viruses are more likely to amplify by human-to-human transmission with spread on a global scale". [read more](#)