

## South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

### BANGLADESH

#### 08 Nov 2015: Foot and mouth disease spreading in Nilphamari district

Foot and mouth disease (FMD) outbreak in cattle is spreading in Sadar Upazila in Nilphamari district. Affected areas are; Haroa Sarkar Para and Debir Danga of Nilphamari municipality, Chowdhury para of Tupamari UP, Masjid Para and Patkumari Kajjar Mor of Khogsabari UP, Bishmuri of Ramnagar UP and Dighal Tari of Panchapukur UP. District animal husbandry office sources said the only way to avoid the disease is vaccination which is not supplied according to the requirement of the district, as a result of which they could not vaccinate all the animals. [read more](#)

### INDIA

#### 10 Nov 2015: Migratory birds herald winter

With the onset of winter, the first flocks of transient and migratory birds have started arriving in different parts of the region. More species of water and forest migratory birds are expected to come along by the month end. Water bodies in Amravati which are regular hosts to migratory birds have started witnessing arrival of many species like Pacific Golden Plover, Black-Bellied Tern, Northern Pintail, Lesser Whistling Duck, Black Redstart, Black-Tailed Godwit, Verditer Flycatcher and Northern Shoveler. [read more](#)

#### 01 Nov 2015: 21 cases of rabid mongoose attacking people reported in Edakkad, Kerala

Unscientific management of domestic waste could lead to the spread of rabies to wild animals, as was seen in a village in Kerala. The issue attains significance as the debate over the management of domestic refuses and stray dog population has reached the apex court of the country and pro and anti-dog culling activists are vehemently driving home their arguments. Recently, two researchers from the Kerala Forest Research Institute codified and published reports on 21 cases of rabid mongoose attacking people in Edakkad, Kannur district, Kerala. The reported incidents took place in 2010 and was considered as the first report from India on a massive attack of rabid mongooses on humans in a village. [read more](#)

### NEPAL

#### 11 Nov 2015: Bird flu fear hits poultry industry

Even as an official of the Department of Veterinary Services said here today that bird flu has not been reported in the country, an office bearer of the Nepal Hatchery Industry Association said the fear of bird flu has been causing the industry a loss of about Rs. five million every day. Speaking at a programme organized by the Department of Veterinary Services, the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives and poultry farmers group in the capital, poultry farmers said the fear of bird flu has severely affected the poultry business. Noting that Nepal has imposed a ban on the import of poultry and poultry products, the director at the Department of Veterinary Services, said the move will effectively prevent bird flu from making inroads into Nepal. [read more](#)

### OTHERS

#### 11 Nov 2015: Ebola situation report

On 7 November WHO declared that Ebola virus transmission had been stopped in Sierra Leone. The country has now entered a 90-day period of enhanced surveillance, which is scheduled to conclude on 5 February 2016. Both Liberia and Sierra Leone have now achieved objective 1 of the phase 3 response framework: to interrupt all remaining chains of Ebola virus transmission. Guinea reported no confirmed cases in the week to 8 November. A total of 4 cases have been reported from Guinea in the past 21 days, all of whom are members of the same family from the village of Kondeyah, in the sub prefecture of Kaliah in Forecariah. All 69 contacts currently being followed in Guinea are located in Kaliah and are scheduled to complete their 21-day follow-up period on 14 November. However, 60 of the contacts are considered to be high risk, and one contact from Forecariah has been lost to follow up with the past 42 days. Therefore there remains a near-term risk of further cases among both registered and untraced contacts. [read more](#)

#### 10 Nov 2015: FAO and El Niño

Agriculture is one of the main sectors of the economy that could be severely affected by the El Niño phenomenon. While drought is the main threat to food production, El Niño can also cause heavy rains, flooding or extremely hot or cold weather. This can lead to animal disease outbreaks, including zoonosis and food-borne diseases, as well as plant pests and forest fires. In previous El Niño events, people whose livelihoods depend on fisheries have been heavily affected in certain areas. With climatologists predicting that the 2015-16 El Niño event could become one of the strongest on record, FAO is moving forward with specific plans for early interventions under its Early Warning - Early Action System. [read more](#)