

South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

BHUTAN

10 Mar 2016: Rabies outbreak in Samtse

Two isolated cases of rabies in a stray dog and a cow were confirmed in Samtse (RBA colony) and Gomtu town on 26/2/2016 and 2/3/2016, respectively. [read more](#)

10 Mar 2016: Rabies case at Daragoan under Chukha Dzongkhag

A local breed cow died of suspected rabies on 4/3/2016 was tested positive to rabies by FAT at NCAH. The cow was bitten by a stray dog on the muzzle area on 7/1/2016 at Daragoan village, Samphelling geog, Chukha Dzongkhag. Daragoan village shares open border with India. [read more](#)

INDIA

10 Mar 2016: Anti rabies drive in Kerala

The vaccination drive as part of the rabies free Kerala vaccination campaign will kick off in Kozhikode district on Thursday. The campaign, jointly funded by the State and the Central governments and being implemented jointly by the departments of Animal Welfare, Local Self-government and Health, aims to administer rabies vaccine to all domestic dogs in the district. District Animal Welfare Officer has informed that every domestic dog in the district will be administered the vaccine during the three-week-long drive. The department will take action under the Panchayati Raj Act against the owners of dogs that have not been vaccinated during the period. [read more](#)

10 Mar 2016: Sterilise stray dogs to protect humans, Supreme Court tells States

Noting that stray dog menace has become a grave threat to the lives of human beings in States, especially in Delhi and Kerala, the Supreme Court on Wednesday directed State authorities to immediately take steps to vaccinate or sterilise stray dogs under the supervision of Animal Welfare Board of India to control their population and growing threat of rabies. "We direct that dogs required to be sterilised or vaccinated, the procedure shall be carried out in accordance with the law and no organisation shall create any kind of obstacle or impediment in the same. It shall be the obligation of the Board to oversee that this is being carried out and no obstructions are created from any quarter," the Supreme Court said. In a recent hearing, the Supreme Court had asked the Kerala government whether measures could be taken to collect stray dogs in one place and sterilise them as per the law. [read more](#)

07 Mar 2016: Vaccination drive to counter anthrax threat in Vellore, Tamilnadu

On March 4, the officials of the department received information that 37 sheep had died in two days in Keezh Venkatapuram in Nemili block. Blood samples were drawn and sent for testing to the Central Research Laboratory, Ranipet and District Referral Laboratory, Vellore, a senior official said. Following this, the department formed four teams, each consisting of eight persons to vaccinate sheep, goats and cattle in the village and surrounding areas. "We started to administer anthrax vaccine to sheep, goats and cattle in eight villages, covering a radius of 8 km from Keezh Venkatapuram on Friday. So far, we have covered 2,000 animals, and will vaccinate the remaining in three days," he said. [read more](#)

NEPAL

07 Mar 2016: Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC) starts dog census

The Kathmandu Metropolitan City has begun an official census of stray dogs in the Capital. Chief of Public Health Division said the census will help in formulating a proper policy for managing the street dogs. "The census will set the tone for KMC's dog management programme set to begin next fiscal year," he said. "The census will be carried out in all 35 wards of the metropolis over a period of one month." The metropolis has allocated Rs. 35 million budget for the next fiscal year under the Kathmandu Metropolitan City Dog Management Programme in partnership with Humane International Society. Under the programme, it plans to vaccinate the dogs against rabies and make them sterile by neutering dogs and spaying bitches. [read more](#)

OTHERS

09 Mar 2016: EU Parliament rubber-stamps laws on transmissible animal diseases

The European parliament has rubber-stamped new rules to help prevent outbreaks of animal diseases such as avian flu and foot and mouth disease. The rules were originally backed by MEPs and the EU Council of Ministers in June 2015. The European Parliament said the new draft EU rules on diseases that are transmissible among animals, and potentially to humans, will help professionals keep pace with scientific progress. "The adaption of the Animal Health Law is a great victory. The law makes three things possible. First, it links animal health and welfare and connects it to human health. This direct link, together with emphasis on responsible use of antibiotics, will help us find growing antimicrobial resistance." [read more](#)