

South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

BHUTAN

26 March 2016: Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak reported in Tsochakha village, Genekha Thimphu

FMD has been diagnosed in five of the nine cattle maintained in Tsochakha village, Thimphu. The first case was a calf reported on 18/3/2016. Other animals showed symptoms on 23, 24 and 25 March and were found NSP positive in later investigations. [read more](#)

28 March 2016: Imported case of Rabies in Haa

A pet dog 2-3 months of age, female was imported from Barpeta, Assam via West Bengal, India by one of the Haa resident on 4/3/2016. The animal was presented for treatment to Haa DVH on 24/3/2016 however, died on 26/3/2016. The brain tissue tested positive to rabies by rapid antigen detection test and was further confirmed by FAT at NCAH on 28/3/2016. This legal /illegal movement of dogs across the border poses low to medium risk of rabies incursion in to the otherwise free interior of Bhutan. [read more](#)

INDIA

30 March 2016: Second suspected anthrax outbreak within a week caused hospitalization of at least 13 people in Jharkhand

Second outbreak of anthrax within a week is suspected which caused hospitalization of at least thirteen people who probably consumed meat of dead or diseased animals in Simdega in Jharkhand. This is located about 30 km away from Kurumdegi where one person was died of anthrax four days ago. An investigation report by the Jharkhand Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) said the villagers developed symptoms of suspected anthrax within 48 hours of consuming the meat. [read more](#)

NEPAL

30 March 2016: Researchers in Nepal confirm first case of Tuberculosis (TB) in a rhino

Based upon research began in 2012 under the auspices of the experts and organizations such as Veterinary Initiative for Endangered Wildlife (VIEW), the National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC), the first case of tuberculosis (TB) has been confirmed in a young female Asian One-horned rhino at a wildlife conservation preserve in Nepal's Chitwan National Park. This discovery is the first infectious disease discovered in the rhino population and is a crucial step in the fight for rhino conservation. The organism causing TB in the rhino is a close relative of organisms that cause TB in humans and cattle. [read more](#)

31 March 2016: PPR epidemic in Bajura district that that was reported in new media on 13 March 2016 is under control

Dr. Keshav Pd. Premy, Director General, Department of Livestock Services, Government of Nepal has said that there were some outbreaks of PPR in Bajura in the month of January and February and the department immediately responded to them and strategically vaccinated the flocks of goat in outbreak area and in the risk area. The disease is under control and there is no report of PPR in the area. [read more](#)

PAKISTAN

26 March 2016: 32 birds die at Safari Park, Lahore

A sudden outbreak of Newcastle disease has caused deaths of over 20 pheasants and around a dozen peacocks in the aviary of Safari Zoo Park during the last one week. Following the death scale, the Punjab Wildlife and Parks Department has issued an emergency letter to the in-charges of all the zoos, wildlife parks and safari zoo parks across the province for taking immediate action. precautionary measures to save the bird species, especially pheasants and peacocks. [read more](#)

SRI LANKA

27 March 2016: Colombo City poised for Rabies Free City by 2018

Colombo city, once overrun by stray dogs harboring rabies virus in them, is now poised to be declared a Rabies Free City by the year 2018. "We have almost achieved our target to be a rabies free city, due to our successful intervention programs," Chief Veterinary Surgeon, CMC, Dr Dharmawardene told the Sunday Observer. He said before 2000, there had been fifty positive cases of rabid dogs in the city. The number plunged to three in 2015, with no cases reported this year so far. [read more](#)

OTHERS

25 March 2016: New member of the Ebola virus may cause disease in humans

The Reston virus, a member of the Ebola virus family known to circulate in domestic pigs in Asia, may acquire the few mutations necessary to cause disease in humans and to develop into a novel health threat, researchers have warned. A team of researchers from the University of Kent in England examined the differences between Ebola viruses. [read more](#)

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