

South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

BANGLADESH

10 May 2016: 21 people developed cutaneous anthrax after consumption of meat from sick cows in Sirajganj district

As many as twenty-one villagers were suffering from anthrax in Jamtoil village in Sirajganj district due to handling of two sick cows and their meat. These villagers developed blisters on their hands and legs which later confirmed to be suffering from cutaneous anthrax. The anthrax bacilli has also been detected in the meat samples taken from the sick cows by Sirajganj Livestock Regional laboratory. While the patients were treated and others were advised to refrain from eating meat of sick cows. [read more](#)

INDIA

5 May 2016: India soon will be FMD Free country

There were 2270 places during the 2005 where FMD outbreaks were reported in India. This number has reduced to just 109 in 2015 which suggested that India will be free from FMD soon. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has estimated the annual loss of milk and meat due to FMD to the tune of 20 thousand crores. The Agriculture Minister (Radha Mohan Singh) has assured the Parliamentary Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture to achieve the goal of FMD Freedom soon. [read more](#)

8 May 2016: Presence of Anthrax bacilli was confirmed in dead Animals in Visakha Agency, Andhra Pradesh

The outbreaks of anthrax in the agency area of Visakhapatnam district were reported in the last issue of this bulletin. The samples collected from soil and the two dead animals detected Anthrax bacilli at Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory in Visakhapatnam, Veterinary Biological Research Institute, Hyderabad besides independent confirmation of anthrax bacilli from dead animals by The Defense Research and Development Establishment. The preventive measures have been advised to contain the infection. [read more](#)

8 May 2016: High mortality of young chicken in a private poultry near Humnabad in Karnataka signaled alert for bird flu

The death of around 10,000 young chicken at a poultry farm in Melkera village of Humnabad in Bidar district has sparked off fears of a bird flu. The biological samples submitted to National Institute High Security Animal Diseases, Bhopal tested positive for H5N1. The culling of about 1.5 lakh chicken and heightened surveillance over poultry farms, bird sanctuaries and Tyvarekoppa tiger and lion safari in the district were ongoing as per recent news published on [10 May](#) and [11 May 2016](#). [read more](#)

9 May 2016: Mizoram bans Import of livestock from Bangladesh due to PRRS

The district administration of Mamit located on the Mizoram-Bangladesh border has imposed ban on import of chicken, bird, duck and eggs from Bangladesh and supply from Tripura due to outbreak of Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) that probably killed pigs in Champhai district located on the Mizoram-Myanmar border. [read more](#)

12 May 2016: Antibiotic Resistance Becoming Global 'Crisis'

According to a news item in SkyNews, overuse of antibiotics is accelerating the mutation and spread of bacteria that are resistant, severely reducing the effectiveness of the drugs. About 70% of antibiotics produced globally are believed to be used in animal. The over-consumption in human and irrational use of antibiotics in animal feed are major issues. The farmers give some antibiotics as a feed supplement to keep their animal healthy, but they do not foresee the problem behind it.. [read more](#)

PAKISTAN

7 May 2016: WHO recommended to enhance national coordination and surveillance system for infectious diseases

WHO delegation visiting Pakistan under Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) has recommended coordination at the federal and provincial levels through a joint public health commission, defining key priorities, establishment of surveillance and laboratory systems, development of uniform regulatory standards for food security and checking the antimicrobial resistance (AMR). [read more](#)

SRI LANKA

8 May 2016: 300,000 people becoming dog bite victims every year

With some 500,000 stray dogs on the roads and 300,000 people becoming dog bite victims every year, Local Government Minister has been directed by the Cabinet to submit plan within three weeks for anti-rabies vaccination and the dog sterilization. [read more](#)

OTHERS

Rational use of vaccination for prevention and control of H5 highly pathogenic avian influenza

According to FAO document "If used rationally, vaccination can help to control and even eliminate HPAI. Vaccination is not a 'magic solution' that will solve all problems and should be used in conjunction with other control and preventive measures. Unless managed appropriately, it can cause some unintended consequences. Vaccination should be considered by all countries struggling to control HPAI using stamping out alone because it can help to contain the disease and reduce risk of human infection". [read more](#)

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