

## South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

### BANGLADESH

#### 27 May 2016: The ongoing anthrax outbreak in Sirajganj topped 100 cases in the past month

According to media reports, the ongoing anthrax outbreak allegedly linked to the slaughter and consumption of anthrax infected cows in Sirajganj District has topped 100 human cases in Shahzadpur (n=30), Kamarkhand (n=32) and Ullapara upazilas (n=44) of the Sirajganj district in a month. This is the highest ever figure of anthrax cases in a year reported in the country. [read more](#)

#### 2 June 2016: RSU-SAARC held 4th Laboratory Director's Meeting on 1-2 June in Dhaka

The regional support unit, SAARC (RSU-SAARC) held the 4<sup>th</sup> Laboratory Director's Meeting from 1-2 June, 2016 in Dhaka. From the eight SAARC member countries, over 30 representatives of the National Laboratories, the SAARC-RDLs for PPR, FMD and HPAI, and the laboratory experts from the World Reference Laboratories for HPAI, PPR & FMD; OIE, FAO RAP, RSU-SAARC, FAO-ECTAD-Bangladesh, SAARC Secretariat, SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC) and IERDC participated in the meeting. After detail deliberations, group discussion and plenary sessions, the meeting formulated a set of recommendations for continuity and improved laboratory coordination mechanism in South Asia. [read more](#)

### BHUTAN

#### 25 May 2016: Suspected FMD outbreak at Tsebji village, Naja Gewog, Paro

Three of the 11 cattle in a herd that migrated from Mondokha village, Dunga Gewog under Chukha and arrived in Tsebji village under Naja Gewog, Paro on 20 May were found affected with FMD. The owner upon observing dullness, salivation and fever in one of his adult pregnant Jatsham on 21 May and two more cases subsequently in his herd reported to the Gewog Livestock Extension officer on 25 May 2016. The team from DVH, Paro clinically diagnosed the disease as FMD and the epithelial tissue samples submitted to the laboratory for confirmation and serotyping of the disease virus. Isolation and treatment of affected animals and ring vaccination against FMD (300 animals) have been applied as measure to control and the further spread of the disease. [read more](#)

#### 31 May 2016: Anthrax suspected following beef consumption in Serthi Gewog in Samdrupjongkhar

According to health officials, at least 33 people including children were suffering from fever, nausea, headaches, abdominal cramps, pain and dehydration after consumption of meat of dead cows on 22 May 2016 in Deptsang village, Serthi Gewog in Samdrupjongkhar. Fifteen of these were suspected to be infected by anthrax however, not yet confirmed. [read more](#)

### INDIA

#### 29 May 2016: Horse suspected of rabies died after biting its caretaker, calf and several cows in Villupuram, Tamil Nadu

A horse suspected for rabies at Muthumariamman Temple has bitten its care taker, a calf and several other cows in the Villupuram district. The horse later died of head injuries it inflicted upon itself and was buried on the temple premises without autopsy on the carcass due to stiff opposition from the villagers in this regard. The caretaker and the injured cows were vaccinated. [read more](#)

#### 31 May 2016: Poultry movement through border check-posts being screened in Kerala

The Animal Husbandry Department of Kerala state has intensified disease surveillance and emergency response measures across the State, following the outbreak of Avian Influenza (bird flu) in Karnataka earlier this month. According to Director, Animal Husbandry "Kerala is not really at risk, as the disease is confined to Bidar district in the north-eastern part of Karnataka bordering Maharashtra. Besides, Kerala mostly depends on Tamil Nadu for its poultry imports. Yet, we are keeping a close watch on the situation and are ready with all possible precautionary measures". [read more](#)

#### 2 Jun 2016: Woman hospitalized for suspected Congo fever in Rajkot, Gujarat

A 30-year-old woman from Mudhan village near Lakhpat in Rajkot has been admitted to the GK General Hospital in Bhuj as a suspected Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) patient. She had high fever, bleeding and lost appetite when admitted on May 30. Biological samples have been sent to the National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune for confirmation besides deployment of paramedical and veterinary staff in Mudhan village as part of precautionary measures. [read more](#)

### OTHERS

#### 24 May 2016: Highly resistant MCR-1 'superbug' found in US for first time

Bacteria carrying the very worrisome MCR-1 resistance gene which makes the last-line antibiotic colistin useless against them has been found in human and animal samples for the first time in the United States. A Chinese team first described the MCR-1 gene last November, after finding it in pigs, pork, and humans. Since then scientists in several countries have found the gene, sometimes alongside other resistance genes. [read more](#)

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