

South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

BHUTAN

13 August 2016: Two rabies case reported one each in Trashigang and Samdrup

Rabies cases one in a yak (zom) and other in a stray dog were reported in Trashigang and Samdrup Dzongkhag respectively. The yak showed aggressive behavior and died on 13 August 2016. The brain tissue sample from both cases tested positive to rabies virus using Rapid Antigen Detection Test and the sample has been sent to National Centre for Animal Health, Serbithang for confirmation using Florescent Antibody Test (FAT). The first case seems linked to a rabies case earlier reported in Trashigang on 29th July 2016 as the yak herd was in Trashigang in late July 2016. [read more](#)

INDIA

13 August 2016: High-risk glanders hits equines in Gujarat and other states

According to Hisar's National Research Centre on Equines, the highly contagious and fatal disease, glanders, also known as farcy, has been detected in 80 equines in the states of Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand. Out of these case, more than half are from Gujarat. The infected animals have to be euthanized to curb further spread of the disease. [read more](#)

15 August 2016: Asiatic wild buffaloes died, Anthrax is suspected in Kaziranga National Park, Assam

Seven Asiatic wild buffaloes were found dead inside the protected area of Kaziranga National Park, Assam. While the results of the final test on biological samples submitted to the College of Veterinary Science in Guwahati on August 12 are yet awaited, the preliminary tests conducted on the dead buffaloes have thrown up traces of anthrax. [read more](#)

17 August 2016: Chicken deaths spark bird flu scare in Odisha

Death of about 1100 chickens at a poultry farm in Kharinasi village has triggered panic with the locals suspecting the death to be an outbreak of bird flu. However, veterinary experts who inspected the poultry farm have allayed fears of flu and said the chickens died of coccidiosis disease not bird flu. The chickens were subjected to laboratory test at the district veterinary college besides sending some of the samples to the Animal Disease Research Institute near Bhubaneswar. The rapid response teams comprising livestock inspectors, village 'gomitras' and veterinary officers in the district have been directed to detect sick chickens. [read more](#)

NEPAL

28 July 2016: First case of Scrub Typhus reported in Nepal

A 59-year-old female belonging to Udayapur district was admitted to Sukraraj Tropical and Infectious Disease Hospital (STIDH) with a 2-week history of high-grade fever with chills, red eyes, joint pain, body ache, headache and loss of appetite. She had, however, no history of rashes or eschar. Abnormal liver function tests were found in the routine laboratory test. Serological tests for leptospirosis, dengue fever and typhoid fever were found negative. The ELISA was however, tested positive for scrub typhus. [read more](#)

PAKISTAN

13 August 2016: Congo virus claims another life in Multan

A patient admitted in Nishtar Hospital few days ago in suspicion of Congo virus has died in Multan. The healthcare workers caring for congo patients or handling specimens from them are advised to implement standard infection control precautions including basic hand hygiene, use of personal protective equipment, safe injection burial practices. [read more](#). While a section of print media on 14 August has emphasized the need to formulate a national policy on infectious diseases soonest possible. [read more](#) another section on 17 August pointed out an imminent threat of congo virus due to movement of animals in the Karachi ahead of Eid. [read more](#).

SRI LANKA

17 August 2016: World Health Organization (WHO) certification for eliminating malaria in September

Sri Lanka will receive certification from WHO for successfully eliminating malaria from the country during the 69th session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia, to be held in Colombo from 5- 9 September 2016. [read more](#)

OTHERS

30 June 2016: New human cases of avian influenza A(H7N9) reported in China

According to Avian Influenza Report (AIR) for the period of August 7 to 13 August 2016, there were 5 new human cases of avian influenza A(H7N9) including 2 cases in Fujian, 2 cases in Hebei and 1 case in Beijing. There were 798 human cases of avian influenza A(H7N9) reported globally including 118 cases from Mainland China since March 2013. [read more](#)