

South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

BHUTAN

03 Oct 2016: Rabies case in Samtse District

A rabies case in local stray dog was reported in Botaykharka village, Ugyentse Geog under Samtse Dzongkhag on 17th September 2016. The brain tissue sample tested using Rapid Antigen Detection Test at District Veterinary Laboratory, Samtse was positive to rabies virus. The Florescent Antibody Test (FAT) performed at National Centre for Animal Health (NCAH), Serbithang confirmed the diagnosis. [Source](#): National Centre for Animal Health, Dept of Livestock, MoAF.

INDIA

04 Oct 2016: Leptospirosis claims one more life in Mumbai

Leptospirosis claimed one life in Mumbai in the last one week. This was the eighth leptospirosis death recorded this year. The Bombay Municipal Corporation (BMC) said the patient, who died was a 24-year-old woman and a resident of Raghunath Chawl in Naupada Kurla. She was admitted to KEM Hospital with fever and headache on September 20 and died on September 29. She had a history of walking through stagnant water. [More](#)

02 Oct 2016: Three more kids die of Japanese Encephalitis in Odisha, toll rises to 24

With Japanese Encephalitis taking epidemic proportions, the vector-borne disease has claimed three more lives in Odisha's Malkangiri taking the toll to 24. 24 infants have died in the last 24 days and five have died in last four days. While two infants died yesterday, one died at Malkangiri district headquarters hospital today. The disease has assumed epidemic proportions in two Kalimela and Korukonda Blocks. [More](#)

30 Sept 2016: Bharuch man diagnosed with Congo fever

A 35-year old man from Amod village near Bharuch, who was diagnosed with Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF), commonly known as Congo fever, has recovered and was discharged from a city-based hospital. The disease was confirmed at Pune's National Institute of Virology. [More](#)

MALDIVES

3 Oct 2016: Final report on PPR outbreak

Since the last outbreak of PPR in a farm in Kolaa area of Ga. Kolamaafushi, Gaafu Aliff in March 2016 the country has submitted the final report to OIE stating that no case has been reported since then and no more follow reports will be submitted. [More](#)

NEPAL

30 Sept 2016: Visceral Leishmaniasis (Kala-azar) downs six people in Darbasha VDC, Morang

At least 6 people from Darbasha VDC in Morang have been diagnosed with kala-azar in Koshi Zonal Hospital. The disease is transmitted through the bites of infected female phlebotomine sandflies and symptoms include weight loss, weakness, cough and fever that could last for weeks or even months. [More](#)

OTHERS

01 Oct 2016: Zika hit babies in Thailand, is India next?

Two babies born with very small heads and brains in Thailand confirmed as south-east Asia's first cases of the birth defect caused by Zika virus infection. Thailand confirmed 349 Zika cases since January, including 33 in pregnant women. Thailand is one of the most popular destinations for Indians - with 1,506,000 million tourists from India visiting in 2015. Many thousand Indians transit through Thailand and Singapore annually for other destinations. Therefore, India is a potential hotspot for a Zika outbreak, concluded scientists last month based on an analysis of travel, climate and mosquito patterns in Asia and Africa to identify the highly vulnerable countries such as India, China, Pakistan and Bangladesh, where the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito that spreads Zika exists. The study was published online on September 1 in *The Lancet*.

However, the virus in the Americas is an Asian strain that was responsible for a large outbreak in French Polynesia and other Pacific Islands in 2013 and 2014. "If there was broad circulation of this virus in Asia, then it could be that the risk of Zika spreading to Asia won't be as bad as we think," writes Dr Abraham Goorhuis of the University of Amsterdam, in *The Lancet*. [More](#)

29 September 2016: Pharma giants commit to tackling antimicrobial resistance

Plan to tackle superbugs includes changes to manufacturing and sales incentives. Leading pharma companies last week promised to take concrete actions to combat antimicrobial resistance. The 'industry roadmap' sets out four commitments and was signed by 13 companies, including GSK, Johnson & Johnson, Merck and Co., AstraZeneca and Pfizer. It follows on from the Davos Declaration's call for a sustainable market for antibiotics last January. [More](#)