

## South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

### BANGALDESH

#### 07 Nov 2016: Bangladesh launches mobile SMS service to fight animal diseases

The Bangladesh government has launched mobile SMS (short message service) services to educate small farmers about animal diseases and treatment. The department of livestock services (DLS) has used a seed grant from a government innovation fund to start the text messaging operation last month (October). The objective is to bring the marginal farmers living in islands and remote areas under our services and protect them from losses. [Read More](#)

### INDIA

#### 04 Nov 2016: Highly pathogenic avian influenza, H5N8 confirmed, Kerala

As per information notified to OIE by Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, New Delhi, India was confirmed as highly pathogenic avian influenza, H5N8. More than 20,000 birds on two separate farms in Kerala, a state on the southernmost tip of the country, died from H5N8/or were destroyed in response to the outbreak. Starting on Oct 19, 100 birds died on a farm in Thakazhy, prompting 14,648 more to be culled. Then an outbreak that began on Oct 23 claimed the lives 15 birds on a farm in Ramankary, and 6,483 more were destroyed to contain the outbreak. The source of the infection is unknown. These events may represent the first H5N8 AI reported detection in India. Details on the genetic characterization of the isolates are awaited to understand the possible incursion route of the virus. [Read More](#),

### More updates

#### 04 Nov 2016: Duck deaths at Hisar: Tests confirm avian flu, H5N8. [Read More](#)

#### 04 Nov 2016: Status of Avian Influenza H5N8 in India, [Press statement](#)

#### 07 Nov 2016: Japanese Encephalitis toll hits 97 in 59 days, Odisha

At the district hospital of Odisha's Malkangiri, 2 more children succumbed to Japanese encephalitis while undergoing treatment on Sunday (6 Nov 2016), taking the death toll in the dreaded vector borne disease to 97 in 59 days. The deceased were identified as a 2 year old of Tulibeda village of Korukonda block and another 2 year old of Kumutiguda in the district, reports said. [Read More](#)

#### 10 Nov 2016: High alert over monkey fever, Karnataka

High alert has been sounded in parts of Karnataka following directions issued by the Indian Council for Medical Research to take necessary precautions to prevent any outbreak of monkey fever (Kyasanur Forest disease). Several parts of the Western Ghats and districts in other Indian states, including Maharashtra, Kerala and Goa, have also been put on alert as this is the season when the fever spreads rapidly. [Read More](#)

### NEPAL

#### 04 Nov 2016: Scrub Typhus reported, Banke

Scrub typhus was spreading at an alarming rate in Nepalgunj of Banke district. The 50 patient has been treated at Bheri Zonal Hospital and Nepalgunj Medical College Teaching Hospital. Most of the patients have returned home while some have been referred to Kathmandu and India's Lucknow. The hospital has issued an appeal to the line ministry and department for availability of examination kits that are in short supply. [Read More](#)

### OTHERS

#### 07 Nov 2016: Multidrug-Resistant Bacteria Found in Chickens at Indian Markets

Isolates of a common poultry pathogen collected from animals in Indian bird markets were mostly resistant to multiple classes of antibiotics. The study provides the first data on prevalence and isolation of *Helicobacter pullorum* in India. In the study, the investigators sequenced the genomes of 11 isolates of the pathogen, *H. pullorum*, from broiler and free range chickens from markets in Hyderabad, India. Each contained five or six well characterized antimicrobial resistance genes. The isolates were resistant to fluoroquinolones, cephalosporins, sulfonamides, and macrolide antibiotics, as well as others. The research is published November 4 in *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*, a journal of the American Society for Microbiology. [Read More](#)

#### 09 Nov 2016: Camel exposure cited in latest Saudi MERS case

Saudi Arabia's ministry of health (MOH) today announced a new MERS-CoV case, involving a 53-year-old man who had contact with camels before he became ill. The patient, a Saudi citizen from Kharj in the central part of the country, experienced Middle East respiratory coronavirus (MERS-CoV) symptoms and is hospitalized in stable condition. The new case, part of a small but steady stream of MERS-CoV infections, lifts Saudi Arabia's MERS total to 1,476 cases, 616 of them fatal. Eight people are still being treated. Saudi Arabia, where the virus was first detected in humans in 2012, has the world's highest number of cases. [Read More](#)