

South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

BHUTAN

11 December 2016: Rabies case in a stray dog at Pasakha, Chhukha District

A rabies case in a stray dog was confirmed at Gurungdara, Pasakha under Sampheling geog on 11 December 2016. No human bite cases have been reported. Control measures are put in place. [Read more](#)

INDIA

8 December 2016: Avian flu outbreak: Migratory birds to be watched by NIV, NGO and Govt.

Given the recent global outbreak of bird flu, surveillance teams have upped the ante on the monitoring of migratory birds set to arrive at Pune's waterbodies soon. The Ela Foundation in coordination with the National Institute of Virology (NIV) will take part in the surveillance of these migratory birds in all the water bodies of the district. Tagging and ringing some birds to monitor movements, with requisite permissions from the forest department is also to be done. Tracheal and cloacal swabs of birds are also going to be analysed, along with serum and environmental samples (of the water they are in) focusing on certain families that have earlier tested positive for the disease. The species of birds will include *Anatidae* (ducks, geese, swans, etc.), *Charadriidae* (plovers, dotterels and lapwings), *Scolopacidae* (waders or shorebirds) and *Phalacrocoracidae* (cormorants, etc.), and some others. [read more](#)

8 December 2016: Blood samples of cows test high sero-positive for Brucellosis (Malta Fever) in Koraput, Jaipur.

With at least 66 out of the 200 blood samples of cows sent for laboratory tests testing positive for Brucellosis (Malta fever), the Koraput administration has taken steps to prevent spread of the disease in the district. Random blood samples drawn from cows of Jeypore, Koraput, Damanjodi, Sunabeda and Semiliguda areas were tested in the laboratory and 33 per cent of the total samples were detected positive for *Brucella abortus*. While the affected animals will be kept isolated to stop spreading of the disease, female calves aged between 4 to 8 months are to be vaccinated. [read more](#)

11 December 2016: Chandigarh: Mahendra Chaudhary Zoo kept on high alert to check avian influenza

Taking measures to check the avian influenza striking birds and other livestock, the Mahendra Chaudhary Zoological Park, Chattbir, has been put on a high alert by the state government. The zoo has a large collection of peacocks, ducks, kites, nocturnal wild owls, geese, Cranes, emu, parrots, and sparrows. A four member team of skilled workers trained by Wildlife Hospital have been assigned the job to keep a watch on the enclosures. The team will keep a check on the enclosures of the birds and wild animals, especially the ones staying in the water, thrice in the day. [read more](#)

12 December 2016: Bird flu scare over, Delhi parks to reopen for public?

Finally, after over a month-long wait, tourist parks in the national capital, which were shut due to the bird flu scare, are all set to reopen. The Department of Animal Husbandry has declared South Delhi's Deer Park, District Park in Paschim Vihar and Shakti Sthal as safe and set to reopen after samples collected recently from all these places tested negative for the influenza virus. But Delhi zoo, however, is not yet ready to reopen as a Black-Necked Stork was found dead on its premises on November 28. . Final approval from the Government of India is awaited. [read more](#)

NEPAL

9 December 2016: Training in Nepal to help with FMD front-line management

Producers, stock handlers, private and government vets and animal health policy-makers will receive first-hand insight into dealing with Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) through the training in Nepal, a country where FMD is endemic. Seeing FMD up close and personal, including the symptoms and warning signs, will help them better understand the disease and what an outbreak could mean for Australia. "Having more participants undertake this training, run by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, will help strengthen Australia's ability to manage and respond to an FMD outbreak. since September 2013 the Coalition government (Australia, Canada, Ireland, UK, USA and New Zealand) had invested \$1.1 million into the program, which was co-funded with industry and state and territory governments. [read more](#)

OTHERS

Nov 2016: Situation Report and Guidance for H5N8 and other Eurasian H5 clade 2.3.4.4 Avian Influenza Viruses

Wild birds play important roles in the circulation of avian influenza viruses and are reservoirs for low pathogenicity strains. In general, avian influenza viruses in wild birds can be transmitted to and from poultry, and potentially to and from other domestic animals and people. In order to reduce health risks to wildlife, domestic animals and people, it is important to understand all aspects of the circulation of the broad range of avian influenza viruses among susceptible populations: wild animals, domestic animals and humans. In general, ongoing wild bird surveillance for avian influenza viruses is encouraged and may help fill gaps in knowledge about circulating influenza viruses. [read more](#)

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