

South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

INDIA

07 Jan 2017: Bird flu confirmed culling started in Sundargarh Odisha

Death of backyard poultry, mainly in domestic birds was reported in Kacharu village on January 2 this year. Notably, some birds were found dead in Indira Gandhi (IG) Park of Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) and carcasses of several crows were found around CISF campus near Bisra Square in December last creating panic among locals. While Park was closed for visitors, an alert was sounded around one km from the two areas. The samples collected from the village Sundargarh have tested positive for the avian influenza in Bhopal Laboratory. [Read More](#)

08 Jan 2017: Avian Influenza (H5N1) detected in Daman

Samples from chicken were found positive for H5N1 bird flu in Kadaiya village in Daman district in the Union Territory of Daman and Diu following which the administration has prohibited import, sale and storage of poultry products, and banned restaurants from serving chicken and egg products for a month. The Daman district has been declared as "surveillance zone" and the Kadaiya village area is notified as 'infected area' for a period of 30 days till February 7 2017 ([Read More](#)). On 9 Jan, suspected bird flu in poultry was reported at Digas village of Kamrej taluka in Surat district of Gujarat State soon after three ducks were found to be infected with bird flu in the Union Territory of Daman. District health authorities and animal husbandry department officials of the state government were informed about this outbreak and samples were immediately sent to the veterinary college of Navsari Agricultural University for testing ([Read More](#)). On 10th Jan, suspecting bird flu in the state, the animal husbandry department of Jamnagar district in Gujarat State swung into action after 41 birds died in a local pond of Keshiya village in Jodiya taluka district. The department has sent samples to Bhopal laboratory for testing ([Read More](#)). The series of bird deaths in Koshiya village of Jamnagar district continued as two more ducks were found dead on Wednesday. Officers of veterinary department in Jamnagar district found two pot-billed duck dead in the local pond of Keshiya village in Jodiya taluka of Jamnagar on Wednesday afternoon. Officers said the two dead birds were found during their surveillance exercise. The teams found two more dead spot-billed ducks floating in the water-body. [Read More](#)

PAKISTAN

10 Jan 2017: Chikungunya spreads was suspected in Lyari- Karachi

Following the 360 cases of Chikungunya reported from Korangi and Malir districts, the latest cases are also reported from Lyari in Karachi. The patient complained of knee pain followed by high-grade fever. Chikungunya is a viral fever and majority of the suspected patient experience the joint pain all over his body. [Read More](#)

OTHERS

11 Jan 2017: China confirms more human bird flu (H7N9) infections

China has confirmed 106 cases of human H7N9 bird flu infections, and 20 deaths in December, according to a statement issued on the website of National Health and Family Planning Commission on Wednesday. The new official number is a significant jump from around 40 cases that had been revealed in media reports and by local government to date. The latest government statement did not include details of where each case happened. China has culled more than 170,000 birds in four provinces since October and closed some live poultry markets after people and chickens were infected by strains of the avian flu. This comes as South Korea and Japan battle their own major outbreaks. The current outbreaks appear isolated. The virus is likely to strike in winter and spring, and farmers have in recent years ramped up measures such as cleaning regimes to prevent the disease. Widespread infection can lead to severe health risks and big financial losses. [Read More](#)

09 Jan 2017: H5N8 HPAI updates: Recommendations for affected countries and those at risk

Avian Influenza A5N8 is rapidly spreading in 2016 in Africa, Asia, Europe and Middle East with pandemic potential throughout. In this situation, FAO recommends intensified surveillance and awareness raising by national authorities. It is important to report sick or dead birds, both wild birds and poultry to local authorities (veterinary services, public health officials, community leaders etc.). These should be tested for avian influenza viruses. Wash hands properly and often. You should always do so after handling birds or other animals, when cooking or preparing animal products, and before eating. There is no benefit to be gained in attempting to control the virus in wild birds through culling or habitat destruction. There is also no justification for any preemptive culling of endangered species in zoological collections. [Read More](#)