

South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

INDIA

03 Feb 2017: Bird flu puts health authorities on alert at International Airport, Hyderabad

The recent upsurge in human cases of avian influenza A (H7N9) in China and the ever-present threat of yellow fever, endemic in 43 countries of Africa and South America, has put health authorities on a state of alert at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Shamshabad. Health officials in-charge of surveillance at airports under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) have said that special focus was being given to screen passengers travelling to and from such countries at almost all major entry points like international airports and ports in the country. [Read More](#)

03 Feb 2017: Cow dies of rabies, villagers advised to take anti-rabies vaccination

Animal welfare organization, Blue Cross has advised people in Kilkaranai village near Maraimalai Nagar, on the outskirts of Chennai, to take anti-rabies vaccination after a rabies-infected cow attacked them. Complained were received about a cow, which had attacked more than 20 people in the village. The cow was brought to the Blue Cross shelter in Velachery. [Read More](#)

05 Feb 2017: 12-year old succumbs to rabies

It is unfortunate that rabies continues to claim lives although effective treatment is available for the disease. A boy from Tarikambla near Bajpe in Karnataka State fell prey to this deadly disease on Saturday February 4. He was bitten by the domestic cat at his residence. It is also being said that a bat had scratched him when climbing a tree. [Read More](#)

06 Feb 2017: Chikungunya cases, reported after season end, New Delhi

As many as 20 chikungunya cases have been reported in the national capital in January, even as the season of the vector-borne diseases ended in December. Till January 14, only two chikungunya cases were reported, while no dengue case had been reported till then. Chikungunya cases in the national capital had tapered off by December first week ending the vector-borne disease season in the city that witnessed its outbreak in the last 10 years. [Read More](#)

NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

IRAN

02 2017: Bird Flu (H5N8) is reported in 14 provinces in the countries

AH5N8, a strain of the avian flu virus was first detected in seven provinces late November 2016. It then spread to 11 other provinces, namely Markazi, Alborz, Qom, East Azarbaijan, West Azarbaijan, Kermanshah, Mazandaran, Golestan, Gilan, Lorestan and Tehran, forcing chicken farmers to cull thousands of infected birds. [Read More](#)

MYANMAR

07 Feb 2017: Myanmar confirms its first H5N6 outbreak

Myanmar reported its first highly pathogenic H5N6 avian influenza outbreak in poultry, confirmed in chickens imported from China, as European countries reported more H5N8 detections and Nigeria reported more outbreaks from the H5N1 strain. The H5N6 report from Myanmar comes just days after Taiwan noted its first H5N6 finding, signifying increasing spread of the virus in Asia. The H5N6 strain has been linked to 17 illnesses in humans, all from China. [Read More](#), [More](#)

OTHERS

06 Feb 2017: Buffalo slaughterhouses in India free for FMD- Jakarta

The government has reiterated that buffalo meat imported from India is safe for consumption, despite confirming the findings of the National Cattle Board (Depernas) that India does not have foot and mouth disease (FMD)-free zones. "The OIE [World Organization for Animal Health] has indeed not found India to be FMD-free but has acknowledged that some slaughterhouses in India have an official FMD control system, as stated in OIE's Terrestrial Animal Health Code. So the imports are legal and safe. Veterinarians also confirmed the safety of the meat. [Read More](#)

6 Feb 2017: The rise of unregulated livestock production prompts health concerns

The UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is warning that increasing demand for, and consumption of, meat and other products of animal origin in East and Southeast Asia are threatening the health of millions of people and livestock as unregulated producers race to meet the demand, often ignoring the possibility of disease and contamination. According to FAO figures, during the last 50 years, consumption of meat products has skyrocketed in East Asia, from nearly 9 kg per capita (8.7 kg) in the mid 1960's to 50 kg per person in 2015, an increase of more than 500 percent. [Read More](#)

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