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Strategies for vaccine development in animal health for emerging and re-emerging diseases in livestock sector

In India, livestock is emerging as a driving force for the socioeconomic transformation of the rural sector. It contributes about 13.6% of the total economy and 30% to agricultural economy. Although, it is growing at an annual rate of 4-5% during the past two decades but it is affected by many emerging and re-emerging diseases. These diseases have serious implication for animal productivity, export potential and safety/ quality of livestock products and some of these diseases have zoonotic implications too. Although, "Prevention is better than cure", but the current efforts of prevention and control of livestock diseases needs to be strengthened by enriching country with quality vaccine, cold chain maintenance and other veterinary amenities. Since Rinderpest, the premier scourge of cattle, has already been eradicated from India in 2004, our focus should be on control and eradication of Foot and Mouth Disease, Peste des Petitis Ruminants (PPR), Brucellosis, Swine Fever, New castle disease and other diseases having major impact on productivity. Disease free zones as per OIE guidelines should be created in areas with export potential. A comprehensive animal health cover requires adequate facilities for prompt diagnosis of livestock diseases and development of efficient sero-monitoring test and test for DIVA (differentiation of infected and vaccinated animal). Quarantine facilities should be strengthened to prevent the ingress of exotic diseases and the movement of livestock from one state to another shall be regulated through Central legislative back-up for the control of inter-state transmission of diseases.

Biography

S N Singh has completed his MVSc from IVRI, Bareilly in 1976 and Post graduate training from L' Institute National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA), France in 1980. He is the Managing Director of Biovet Pvt Ltd., Bangalore, a premier veterinary biological company. He received various award along with prestigious National Technology Day Award 2013, from Shree Pranab Mukharjee Hon'ble president Govt. of India for innovation of Foot and Mouth Disease Vaccine and development of Blue Tongue Pentavalent and Johne 's disease Vaccine under PPP first time in the country. He has worked on livestock development and rural upliftment and actively participated in grass-root level vaccine programme, helping eradication of rinderpest from India.

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