INDIA

Country report on the current situations of the use of antimicrobial agents as growth promoter

Sujit Nayak

Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Government of India
Legislation related to the use of antimicrobial agents in feed as growth promoter

1. We have **Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011** wherein the usage in food of animal origin and tolerance limits are prescribed for (i) Antibiotics used in humans and animals (ii) Antibiotics exclusively used in animals and (iii) Other veterinary drugs

2. Under **Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940** drug manufacturers have been directed that the container of medicine for treatment of food producing animals should mandatorily mention the withdrawal period.

3. **Consumer Protection Act, 1986**, and the **Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986**: Under the relevant sections of the Consumer Protection Act, if any livestock feed/fish feed being sold in the market is found to be deficient with reference to the prescribed BIS standard for the said feed, then it may be examined.

4. **Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984** is for regulating Veterinary Practice and has registers of persons qualified to engage in veterinary practice for the whole of India. Veterinary Council of India and State Veterinary Councils are established.
Current situation

• How legislation is enforced/implemented (e.g., monitoring system): Under FSS Act, 2006 there is a network of laboratories which checks for antibiotic residues; State Governments

• Gaps in legislation: There is no exclusive feed legislation

• Use of antibiotics in feed as growth promoter:
  • We have BIS specifications IS: 1374:2007 especially for poultry which has a separate annexure on feed additives and it states that the use of antibiotic growth promoters are NOT RECOMMENDED in poultry feed.
  • Advisories have been issued to State Animal Husbandry Departments to discourage antibiotic feeding as growth promoter and farmers and feed manufacturers to be educated/advised on not using antibiotics for animal feeding.
  • There are lists of feed additives defined for imports.

• Capacity (e.g., testing) and resources to control use: There are around 16 referral labs, 72 State labs and 129 notified NABL accredited labs (as on July, 2017). Veterinarians to practice judicious of antimicrobials in food animals and feed and educate farmers.
National Action Plan on AMR-India

1. Awareness & understanding
   - Communication & IEC
   - Education, training

2. Knowledge & evidence
   - Surveillance of AMR - human, animal, environment
   - Laboratories

3. Infection prevention & control
   - Healthcare, HAI
   - Animal health
   - Community & environment

4. Optimise use
   - Regulations, access, AM use
   - Antimicrobial stewardship - human
   - AMS - animals, agriculture

5. Innovations, R&D
   - New medicines
   - Innovations
   - Financing

6. Collaboration
   - International collaborations
   - National collaborations
   - State level collaborations

- Supply chain management of antimicrobials (AMs)
- Restrict and phase-out non-therapeutic use of AMs as growth promoters and prophylaxis
- Restrict and gradually eliminate the use of restricted antibiotics critically important for humans
- Restrict AMs in animal feed, feed premix; ensure registration; regulate their importation, direct distribution and online marketing; ensure appropriate labelling
- Ensure prescription sale of AMs and their use under supervision; regulate bulk selling, importation and labelling for species-specific use