

No.50-338(7)/2010-LDT(AQ)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Agriculture  
**Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries**

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated the 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2010

To  
**The Chief Secretary of all the States/UTs**

**Subject:** Declaration of Avian Influenza – free status.

Sir,

India notified outbreak of Avian Influenza (H5N1) in West Bengal (12 epicenters) during January, 2010. The last outbreak was notified on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 in Khargram block of Murshidabad district in West Bengal. There has been no further outbreak thereafter.

2. The control measures adopted in the outbreak were stamping out of entire poultry population, including destruction of eggs, feed, litters and other infected materials in a radius of 3 Kms around the outbreak location, restriction on movement of poultry, poultry products to and from the area of outbreak, disinfection and cleaning up of infected premises. The final disinfection process was completed on 02.03.2010.

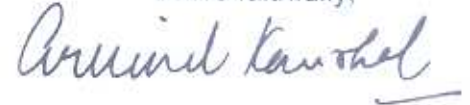
3. Surveillance was carried out throughout the country. Results of surveillance and other relevant information on outbreak is available on the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Government of India website at <http://www.dahd.nic.in>. Surveillance around the area of the outbreak since completion of the operation (including culling, disinfection and clean-up) and surveillance in rest of the country has shown no evidence of the presence of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1).

4. In view of the above, India has declared itself free from the Notifiable Avian Influenza (H5N1) with effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2010 and notified the same to the OIE.

*Contd.....*

5. It is, however, emphasized that surveillance against Avian Influenza will need to be continued throughout the country, especially in vulnerable areas bordering infected countries and in areas visited by migratory birds. It is reiterated that the States should not be led into complacency due to declaration of country freedom from notifiable Avian Influenza and must maintain their vigil against the disease.

Yours faithfully,



(Arvind Kaushal)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

**Copies for information to:**

1. Prime Minister's Office (Shri Sanjay Mitra, Joint Secretary), New Delhi
2. Cabinet Secretariat (Smt. Ajanta Dayalan, Joint Secretary), New Delhi
3. Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
4. Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi
5. Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi
6. Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
7. Director General (M&C), PIB, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
8. Secretary, Department of Animal Resources Development, Government of West Bengal
9. Director, Department of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, Government of West Bengal

**Copy also to:**

1. Secretary (AH) of all States/UTs
2. Commissioner/ Director (AH) of all States/UTs

(Arvind Kaushal)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India