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कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली-110 001

Joint Secretary  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries  
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001

Dated the 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2005.

D.O.No.50-171/2005-LDT(AQ).

Dear Sir,

Sub: AVIAN INFLUENZA - Payment of compensation - Regarding.

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Your attention is invited to the letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2005 of Shri P.M.A. Hakeem, Secretary, Government of India, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture regarding Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). The Action Plan for State Animal Husbandry Departments was sent along with this letter.

Para 2.21 at page 23 of the Action Plan deals with the compensation to be paid for forced culling. The para is re-produced below for convenience of reference:

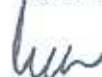
*"It is obvious that the programme of culling of all affected birds will succeed only if a system of adequately compensating the poultry farmers is put in place and activated immediately after the outbreak of HPAI is confirmed. It is unrealistic to expect the poultry farmers to cooperate with the culling programme unless they can hope to get fair compensation immediately. It must be realized that any expenditure incurred on this will be more than justified by way of bringing about effective control on the disease. The State Government will have to take an immediate decision on this. In order to ensure that compensation is paid expeditiously and that chances of its misuse are minimized, it will be advisable to associate the District Collectors with this. In order to have effective control on the expenditure incurred on payment of compensation, it will be necessary to collect data on the poultry population within a radius of 3 kms from the suspected site before receipt of test results, as mentioned in para 1.14. The question of grant of assistance, if any, to the States for this purpose will have to be decided separately."*

The matter has been further examined at the level of Government of India regarding the rates of compensation payable for forced culling. It is proposed that the compensation may be fixed at Rs.30/- per broiler bird, Rs.40/- per layer bird and Rs.10/- per chicks younger than 10 weeks. It is clarified that the State Governments are free to fix and pay higher compensation. It is further suggested that the birds for which compensation is paid are culled in the presence of an officer authorized by the District Collector and their number certified by that officer. No compensation should be paid for dead birds so as to encourage early reporting of the disease. Deliberate separation or late submission of information from a farm should also not be compensated. It is reiterated as already stated in para 2.22 of the Action Plan that compensation is to be paid for all birds that are destroyed in the infected zone of 3 km. radius around the initially infected farm. It is also reiterated as contained in para 2.3 of the Action Plan that there will be no need to provide any compensation in respect of the birds in the sanctuary to be destroyed.

The following issues will also need to be addressed in this regard:

- i) A mechanism is to be put in place to determine the quantum of compensation payable in each case and the procedure(s) to be adopted for the same as payment of compensation must be immediate and adequate. The District Collector and district administration will have to be associated in the payment of compensation and also enforcing the zones viz. alert zone in case of suspicion of outbreak and 3 km./10 km. zone in case of actual outbreak. In fact, the District Collector/Magistrate is best placed to assume the lead role in implementation of Action Plan pertaining to aspects of zoning, quarantine, closure of markets, etc. as effective and immediate co-ordination can be achieved at that level only. You are requested to familiarize the District Collectors and district administration suitably in this regard.
- ii) In the period between suspicion of outbreak and notification of outbreak after confirmation of samples, data regarding poultry within the radius of 3 kms. is to be quickly compiled to verify and compensate claims for culling poultry. The mechanism for collecting this data also needs to be put in place.

Yours sincerely,



2.12.  
(Upma Chawdhry)

O/c.

Chief Secretaries of all the States/UTs. - 35

Copy to the Secretary/Principal Secretary (AH)/Administrator of all the States/UTs. - 34

Total - 69