

No. 50-258/2008-LDT (AQ)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Agriculture  
**Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries**

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated the 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2008

To,

**The Chief Secretary**  
Government of Meghalaya  
Shillong

**Subject:** Confirmation of Avian Influenza in Central Chick Rearing Farm, Khanapara, Guwahati Municipality, Assam

Sir,

I am directed to inform that the samples collected from the Central Chick Rearing Farm, Khanapara, Guwahati Municipality, Kamrup District, Assam have tested positive for Avian Influenza in the Rapid Tests conducted at the High Security Animal Disease Laboratory (HSADL), Bhopal.

2. Consequent upon the above, it has been decided that all poultry within a radius of 3 kms. of the afore-mentioned focus of infection will be culled. In addition, intensive surveillance will be carried out over a further radius up to 10 kms. In this connection, it has been informed by the Government of Assam that the culling zone of 3 kms extends to the area which falls within the territorial jurisdiction of Meghalaya. Accordingly, the culling and surveillance over the said area will need to be undertaken by the Government of Meghalaya.

3. It is requested that necessary actions as contained in the 'Action Plan of Animal Husbandry for Preparedness, Control and Containment of Avian Influenza', revised and circulated by the Government of India in November, 2006 (especially in Part III thereof) and the 'Contingency Plan' circulated by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India may please be initiated immediately. Such actions are to be taken both by the Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department and the Public Health Department of the State. These include declaration of infected and surveillance areas, ban on movement of poultry and its products in infected area, closure of poultry and egg markets within a radius of 10 kms. from the infected site, ban on movement of farm personnel, restricting access to infected premises, destruction and disposal of birds, disposal of infected material, clean-up and disinfection followed by sealing of the premises and issue of sanitization certificate, post operations surveillance, imposition of legislative measures etc. along with necessary measures laid down in the Contingency Plan of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India.

4. It is the policy of the Government to compensate for loss of poultry on account of culling and destruction of birds. The rate for payment of compensation has also been indicated to the State Governments. The Government of India shares 50% of the cost of compensation for which funds already made available to the Government of Meghalaya for implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Assistance to States for Control of Animal Disease' (ASCAD), may be

utilized. It may please be ensured that payment of compensation is made upfront at the time of culling of birds and destruction of eggs and feed materials.

5. A daily report on the control and containment operations may please be furnished to this Department by 11 A.M.

6. Surveillance throughout the State may be intensified to monitor occurrence of any unusual mortality.



(Arvind Kaushal)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

**Copies for information to:**

- (i) Prime Minister's Office (Shri Sanjay Mitra, Joint Secretary), New Delhi
- (ii) Cabinet Secretariat (Shri M. Sarangi, Additional Secretary), New Delhi
- (iii) Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.
- (iv) Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi.
- (v) Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi.
- (vi) Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
- (vii) Director General (M&C), PIB, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
- (viii) Secretary & Commissioner, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department, Government of Meghalaya.
- (ix) Secretary & Commissioner, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department, Government of Assam.
- (x) Director, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department, Government of Meghalaya.

**Copy also to:**

- (i) Principal Secretary/ Secretary (AH) of all States/UTs.
- (ii) Commissioners/Directors (AH) of all States/UTs.



(Arvind Kaushal)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India