

Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture
Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated, the 2nd February, 2008

MEDIA BRIEF

1. As per the latest report received from the High Security Animal Disease Laboratory, Bhopal, sample collected from Canning 2 block of South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal have tested positive for Avian Influenza virus on the basis of rapid tests.
2. The mortality of birds on 1st February 2008 was of the order of 251, all of which were reported from South 24 Parganas and Birbhum. A total mortality of 4,32,625 poultry birds has so far been reported from Birbhum, Dakshin Dinajpur, Murshidabad, Nadia, South 24 Parganas, Burdwan, Bankura, Hooghly, Malda, Coochbehar, Purulia, Howrah and North 24 Parganas districts of West Bengal.
3. A total of 349 Rapid Response Teams were engaged as on 01.02.2008, which completed culling of 2.2 lakh birds taking the cumulative figure of culling so far to 29.43 lakh.
4. Latest position of destruction of eggs and feed carried out till 01.02.2008 are 2,64,247 and 69,500 kg respectively.
5. It has been decided to create a poultry depopulated zone in Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa up to 5 kilometers from their border with West Bengal so as to prevent ingress of Avian Influenza into these States. All the concerned State Governments have been notified and advised to take further necessary action.