

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

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated the 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2008

**MEDIA BRIEF**

The salient developments on the above subject up to 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2008 are given below:

1. As per the latest report received from the High Security Animal Disease Laboratory, Bhopal, this morning, samples collected from the Panchla block of Howrah district, Suri-I, Mayureswar-I and Nanoor blocks of Birbhum district and Kalyani municipality of Nadia district have tested positive for Avian Influenza virus on the basis of the rapid tests. It is gathered that the infection in new areas is not over a wide area but restricted to small pockets.
2. As per the latest reports, a total of 916 Rapid Response Teams were engaged on 28.01.2008, which completed culling of 2.38 lakh birds taking the cumulative figure of culling so far to 21.68 lakh.
3. A total mortality of 1,29,777 poultry birds has 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. This number stood at 1,25,283 till yesterday.
4. Hon'ble Health Minister took a meeting today to review the situation of bird flu. The Resident Commissioner, West Bengal clearly stated in the meeting that there was no further support needed from the Central Government at this stage.