

No. 50-362/2011-LDT (AQ)
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture
Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 17th February, 2011

To

The Chief Secretary
Government of Tripura
Agartala

Subject: Confirmation of Avian Influenza in Government Duck Farm, R. K. Nagar, Agartala, Tripura.

I am directed to refer to the Government of Tripura, Animal Resources Development Department letter No. 9-25/ARDD/DIL/RKN/ 2011 dated 15th February, 2011 reporting unusual death of ducks in Government Duck Farm, R.K. Nagar, Agartala, Tripura. The poultry samples collected from the affected site were forwarded to the ERDDL, Kolkata and High Security Animal Disease Laboratory (HSADL), Bhopal for testing.

2. The tests conducted at ERDDL, Kolkata and subsequently by HSADL, Bhopal confirmed that the samples from Government Duck Farm are positive for H5 strain of Avian Influenza.

3. In this connection, it has been decided that the culling of birds and destruction of eggs and feed material etc. may commence immediately without any delay so as to control further spread of the disease without loss of time.

4. Accordingly, a series of strategic actions are now required to be taken immediately in the above area. Such actions are to be taken by the Animal Husbandry and Public Health Departments. The strategy has been detailed 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 and other instructions/guidelines issued by the Government of India from time to time and also the 'Contingency Plan' circulated in 2005 by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

5. It is requested that necessary actions as contained in the Action Plan of Animal Husbandry referred to above (especially under Part III) are initiated immediately by the State Government. These include declaration of infected and surveillance areas, ban on movement of poultry and its products in the infected area/closure of poultry and egg markets and shops within a radius of 10 kms. from the infected site, ban on movement of farm personnel, restricting access to the infected premises; destruction of birds; disposal of dead birds and infected materials; 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 (2005) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

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6. It has been decided that the entire poultry will be culled within a radius of 3 kms. of the focus of infection as-given below :-

S.No.	Village	City
1.	State Duck Breeding Farm, R.K. Nagar	Agartala

In addition to the culling strategy mentioned above, surveillance will be carried out over a further radius up to 10 kilometers.

7. 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 has conveyed the decision to share costs of compensation on 50:50 basis with the State Governments and authorized State Governments to utilize funds available with them under the programme of 'Assistance to States for Control of Animal Disease' (ASCAD), which is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. It may please be ensured that payment of compensation is immediate and simultaneous to culling.

8. A daily report on the control and containment operations may please be furnished to this Department by 11 a.m.

9. International Organizations will be notified by the Government of India at its level.

10. Surveillance throughout the State may be intensified to monitor further spread of infection, if any.



(R.S. Rana)

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 (Shri M. Sarangi, Additional 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) Principal Secretary, Department of Animal Resources Development, Government of Tripura.
- 9) Director, Department of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, Government of Tripura.

Copy also to:

- (1) Secretary (AH) of all States/UTs.
- (2) Commissioners/Directors (AH) of all States/UTs.



(R.S. Rana)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India