

K-11053/75/2020-LH  
Government of India  
Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying  
Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi  
Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2020

To  
The Chief Secretaries of All States/UTs

**Sub: Declaration of Country Freedom from Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1)**

Sir,


The outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) at various epicenters in the states of Chhattisgarh (Government Poultry Farming Region, Baikunthpur, District Korea of Chhattisgarh), Odisha (AICRP on Poultry Breeding, College of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, OUAT, Bhubaneswar), Kerala (Egger Nursery, Kozhikode, Kodyathur, Vengeri (PO), Kozhikode, and Palathingil Ward no. 16, Parapanangadi block, Malappuram), Karnataka (Metagilli, taluk Mysore, district Mysore and village Bannikode, taluk Harihara, district Devanagere), Madhya Pradesh (Mehgaon, Dist. Bhind), Bihar (PC Colony, near Ashok Nagar, Road no 14, Kankarbagh, Patna, Murari Prasad Poultry Farm, Saidpur, Katrisari, Dist Nalanda, M/S Agro Food and Farm, Vill-Rajhat, Block- Akbarpur, Nawada) were notified and the control and containment operations were carried out as per the guidelines of Action Plan on Preparedness, Control and Containment of Avian Influenza. The control measures adopted in the radii of one Km around outbreak locations included the following:

- i. Stamping out of entire poultry population including destruction of eggs, feed, litter and other infected materials,
- ii. restriction on movement of poultry and poultry products to and from the areas of outbreak,
- iii. disinfection and cleaning up of infected premises and;
- iv. the Post Operation Surveillance Plan (POSP)

3. It is pertinent to note that following the completion of the operation (including culling, disinfection and clean-up) at the above epicenters, there have been no further reports of the presence of HPAI virus. Accordingly, the country is declared free from Avian Influenza (H5N1) w.e.f. 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2020.

4. It is, however, emphasized that the surveillance will have to continue throughout the country especially in the vulnerable areas bordering areas from where possibility of ingress of infection exists and in areas frequented by migratory birds. Finally, It is reiterated that States should not be complacent due to the declaration of the country freedom from Avian Influenza but must maintain strict vigil against the disease.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Upamanyu Basu)  
Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India

**Copies for information to**

1. Secretary, National Disaster Management Authority, NDMA Bhawan, A-1, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi-110029
2. Prime Minister's Office (Sh. Sh. C. Sridhar), New Delhi
3. Joint Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi
4. Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi
6. Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
7. Secretary (Security), Cabinet Secretariat, North Block, New Delhi – 110001
8. Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
9. Joint Secretary (DM), Ministry of Home Affairs, NDCC-11 Building, Jai Singh Road, New Delhi-110001
10. Director General (M&C), PIS, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

**Copy also to**

1. Secretary (AH) of all States/UTs
2. Commissioners/Directors (AH) of all States/UTs
3. All Regional/Quarantine Officers, AQCS Stations (New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bangalore and Hyderabad)