

PRESS RELEASE

As on 28th January, 2008, the Government of West Bengal in the Animal Resources Development Department has not declared any further area to be an eradication area.

A) ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED FOR CULLING OPERATION ON 27-01-2008

Sl. No.	Activities	DISTRICTS														TOTAL
		Birbhum	Dakshin Dinajpur	Nadia + North 24 Pgs	Murshidabad	Burdwan	Coochbehar	Malda + Uttar Dinajpur	Howrah	Bankura	Hooghly	Purulia	South 24 Pgs *	Pasch. Med. *		
1)	Deployment of RRT															
	a) For Culling	244	0	210	244	0	50	54	89	0	24	20	0	0	935	
	b) For surveillance/ Mopping	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	7	0	0	0	10	
	TOTAL RRT	244	1	210	244	0	50	54	89	2	31	20	0	0	945	
2)	Target of culling of birds	750912	80000	394095	912031	230500	105000	60000	75000	11000	35000	35500	35000	9000	2733038	
3)	Culling of birds															
	a) Upto 26-01-2008	600018	79940	234143	410033	169037	13216	25943	6519	10601	23230	2744	0	0	1575424	
	b) On 27-01-2008	117132	0	24320	100805	0	14643	28206	58779	33	3785	6897	0	0	354600	
	Progressive Total of Birds Culled	717150	79940	258463	510838	169037	27859	54149	65298	10634	27015	9641	0	0	1930024	
3)	No. of eggs destroyed															
	a) Upto 26-01-2008	74375	66497	15559	7420	17134	1044	3147	14	1338	2257	0	0	0	188785	
	b) On 27-01-2008	8237	0	5773	231	0	480	5729	142	0	590	738	0	0	21920	
	Progressive Total of eggs destroyed	82612	66497	21332	7651	17134	1524	8876	156	1338	2847	738	0	0	210705	
4)	Quantity of Feed destroyed (kg)															
	a) Upto 26-01-2008	8542.50	3181.00	8020.00	626.50	2212.50	-	-	-	54.00	1150.00	-	-	-	23786.50	
	b) On 27-01-2008	490.00	-	3425.00	20.00	-	-	76.00	8,970.00	-	112.00	-	-	-	13093.00	
	Progressive Quantity of Feed destroyed (kg)	9032.50	3181.00	11445.00	646.50	2212.50	-	76.00	8,970.00	54.00	1,262.00	-	-	-	36879.50	

B) UNUSUAL MORTALITY FOR THE DAY & THE CUMULATIVE TOTAL

SL NO	DISTRICT	Upto 26-01-08	On 27-01-08	Progressive Total
1)	Birbhum	80749	32	80781
2)	Dakshin Dinajpur	1650	0	1650
3)	Murshidabad	27965	650	28615
4)	Nadia	1679	2	1681
5)	South 24 Parganas	1188	0	1188
6)	Bardhaman	9592	0	9592
7)	Bankura	780	0	780
8)	Hooghly	288	0	288
9)	Malda	42	1	43
10)	Coochbehar	300	0	300
11)	Purulia	130	0	130
12)	Howrah	235	0	235
	TOTAL (B)	124598	685	125283

Human surveillance for Avian Flu on 27-01-2008

On date, 42 Blocks and 4 (four) Municipalities of 13 districts (Birbhum, Dakshin Dinajpur, Murshidabad, Burdwan, Nadia, Malda, Coochbehar, Bankura, Hooghly, Purulia, Howrah Paschim Medinipur and South 24 Parganas) of the State have been affected by Avian Influenza outbreak. Small area of Uttar Dinajpur district adjoining to affected area of Chanchol-I, Malda and small area of North 24 Parganas district adjoining to Haringhata, Nadia also fall within 5 Km radius of the aforementioned affected areas and so have been brought under surveillance.

A. Steps taken to prevent human infection

Disease surveillance at community level

1. Community level fever surveillance – 16.7 lakh people surveyed on 27-01-2008.
2. Number of fever cases found – 4,045 (0.2%)
3. Biological samples tested for Avian Influenza – 17 (Dakshin Dinajpur – 07, Murshidabad – 02 and Birbhum – 08). All samples tested negative for the disease.
4. The Rapid Response Teams of Government of West Bengal and Government of India are actively involved in this activity and keeping a close vigil.
5. Till date, no suspected case of human Avian Influenza has been detected.

Surveillance of the cullers and health personnel

1. A total of 3,637 health personnel deployed in the fields have been examined on 27-01-2008.
2. Department has ensured adequate supply of drugs for prophylaxis and Personal Protective Equipments (PPE) for the health personnel examining the cullers.

Preparation for management of human Avian Influenza cases, if any

1. Isolation/ observation wards have been set at all identified facilities of the affected districts.
2. Till date, 17 ventilators have already been placed and installed at those facilities along with other equipments.
3. Department has also directed the district health authorities of hitherto unaffected districts to identify health facilities where isolation wards can be opened, if necessary, equip them with essential amenities and make necessary human resource planning.
4. IDBG hospital, Kolkata has been identified as apex referral hospital.
5. Department has ensured adequate supply of drugs, PPE and other logistics to combat any eventuality.
6. Daily coordination meetings are being held at the State and district headquarters.

B. Steps taken to support ARD Department

1. On date, a total of 7,526 cullers comprising 945 teams (935 engaged in culling and 10 in surveillance) have been medically examined twice a day, at the start and at the end of culling activity, and given chemoprophylaxis (Tamiflu).

C. Steps taken for dissemination of information and messages to the community

1. The sensitization / training of the health personnel on Avian Influenza and its surveillance is going on simultaneously at all affected and hitherto unaffected districts. State Resource Centre is also giving inputs to the State headquarter.
2. Many districts have prepared leaflets regarding the do's/ don'ts on Bird Flu and distributed throughout the community at risk.
3. Health personnel, during their survey activity, are interpersonally communicating with the community to bring out essential behaviour changes.
4. Department has printed leaflets, posters and handbills and sent those to the districts for distribution among community. UNICEF has rendered support to this activity.
5. 15 lakh leaflets have already been sent to the districts for distribution in the community.
6. Posters prepared by UNICEF have already been distributed. Further, 1.5 lakh posters prepared by DOHFW have been sent to the districts.
7. Master Compact discs and 2000 cassettes containing audio messages have been sent to the districts with explicit direction to play those at important sites through loudspeakers.
8. Compact discs containing TV clippings and a short film have been sent to the districts with direction to use them through local cable channels.
9. Department is bringing out public messages in leading six Bengali, two English, Two Hindi and Two Urdu news dailies.
10. Government of India and Government of West Bengal are disseminating messages on Bird Flu through Doordarshan and other major TV channels and also through All India Radio and FM Band.
11. All the IEC materials, guidelines, forms and protocols and important documents related to Avian Influenza have been made available to the community at the website : www.wbhealth.gov.in .
12. Department is also sending all the various IEC materials to up till now unaffected districts to keep them prepared in advance.

D. Steps taken for dissemination of information and messages to the community

On 27.01-2008, Hon'ble MIC, Health and Family Welfare Department, Hon'ble MIC, Finance Department and Hon'ble MIC, ARD Department met the press representatives at Rotunda, Writers' Buildings. At the outset, Hon'ble MIC, Finance Department briefed on the outbreak situation and financial losses incurred by the industry in this respect. The Finance Minister announced a relief package for the affected families. It was followed by a PowerPoint presentation by Dr. R.S. Shukla, Project Director, WBSAP & CS and E.O. Secretary, describing analytically the present situation of the outbreak of Avian Influenza in the State and the steps taken by both the Departments in this regard. Then, Hon'ble MICs of both the concerned Departments answered the questions raised by the press representatives. The press-meet ended with the thanks giving from the ministers.