

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:363

ANSWERED ON:10.05.2006

OUTBREAK OF BIRD FLU

Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether fresh outbreak of Bird Flu has been reported in various parts of Maharashtra and other States of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of persons infected due to Bird Flu till date, State-wise;
- (d) the loss suffered due to Bird Flu in various States;
- (e) whether any compensation has been given in this regard;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether the Government has sought the help of foreign experts to combat Bird Flu; and
- (h) if so, the measures taken by the Government to contain outbreak of Bird Flu?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (h): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 363 FOR 10TH MAY, 2006

Bird Flu was first notified by Department of Animal Husbandry, Government of India in Maharashtra [Navapur, Nundurbar District ] and in Gujarat [Uchhal village of Uchhal Taluka] on 18th February, 2006. Subsequently, it was notified in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra in different villages on different dates - Hated, Sawada, Salava, Marul on 14th March, 2006; Varad, Paldhi Kh, Bhadgaon, Parola, Erandol, Uttaran on 28th March; Pachora Chalisgaon, Mehunbare Nandre Mohida, Muktai Nagar, Salbardi Khamkheda Pimpri, Vitava, Sakhari, Weghari, Nandgaon on 5th April and Janave, Ichjheda, Jalgaon on 18th April, 2006. It was also notified in Ichhapur and Bhadwani villages in Burhanpur district of Madhya Pradesh on 28th March, 2006.

Till date no human cases of avian flu has been reported.

A total of about 10,42,209 birds were culled within 10 Km radius of the villages declared infected with Avian Influenza. It was decided that all the birds requiring compulsory culling/ destruction would be compensated at the rate of Rs. 40/- for layers, Rs. 30/- for broilers and Rs. 10/- for chicks. A sum of Rs. 380.12 lakhs has been paid to the farmers both in backyard as well as commercial poultry farms as compensation for the culled poultry.

Government of India is working in close coordination with World Health Organization and World Organization for Animal Health [OIE] for any technical advice. However, help of foreign experts has not been sought to combat Bird Flu.

Earlier, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had taken a number of preparedness measures which included monitoring by inter ministerial group, national consultation and preparation of contingency plan which had been circulated to all States and districts, stockpiling of oseltamivir [Tamiflu] and personal protective equipments, training of state level rapid response teams etc.

The contingency plans of Department of Animal Husbandry and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare were put into operation immediately on notification of Avian Flu. These actions included declaration of infected area of 0-3 Kms and surveillance areas upto 10 Kms from the infected village respectively, culling of affected poultry in these areas followed by proper disposal and burial of the dead birds.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India deputed its Rapid Response Teams to the affected areas to assist the State health authorities in carrying out active house to house surveillance to identify suspected cases among contacts of infected poultry. All those reported to have symptoms of even upper respiratory tract infections and fever were isolated and kept under

observation following strict infection control practices. For such purpose, hospitals were identified near the affected area and strengthened in terms of creation of isolation ward and critical care support.

Adequate quantity of Oseltamivir and personal protective equipments were made available to the affected States.

Department of Animal Husbandry is conducting active surveillance in an axis of 200 Kms. in and around the affected areas. Since reporting of the last case on 18.4.2006, no fresh case has been detected from the samples so far

tested. Ministry of Environment and Forests is also keeping a strict vigil on wild life sanctuaries.

The coordinated action taken by the concerned Ministries/ departments and the State Governments has brought the situation under control. The situation is being closely monitored by the Government.