

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2181

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2007

ERADICATION OF BIRD FLU

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

- (a) whether the cases of bird flu have re-surfaced recently in some countries of the world and some part of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the workers working in the poultry farm and the children are more prone to the disease;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to prevent the disease;
- (e) whether laboratories are being set up in this regard in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (f): As per the World Health Organization of Animal Health (OIE), Bird Flu has been reported from 17 countries i.e. Afghanistan, China, Djibouti, Hong Kong, Hungary, Japan, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Russia, Slovenia, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom and Vietnam during this year, till 12th March, 2007. However, India is free from Bird flu since 11th August, 2006

Workers in poultry farms, markets and involved in culling activity and children who play with backyard poultry are under high risk group. Information, Education and Communication strategies are being implemented through radio and T.V. spots.

Government have preparedness plans, appropriate infrastructure and laboratory facilities to meet any bird flu outbreak.