

**MOST IMMEDIATE**

F.No. K-50050-3/1/2017-LH  
Government of India  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.  
Dated the 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2017

To,  
The Chief Secretaries of All States/UTs.

**Subject: Declaration of Country Freedom from Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1 and H5N8)- regarding.**

Sir,

This is regarding declaration of country freedom from Highly Pathogenic Avian influenza, after outbreaks of the disease at various epicenters in Delhi, Gwalior (MP), Rajpura (Punjab), Hissar (Haryana), Bellary (Karnataka), Allappuzha and Kottayam (Kerala), Ahmedabad (Gujarat), Daman (Daman) and Khordha and Angul (Odisha) in the country.

2. All the outbreaks of Avian Influenza (HPAI) mentioned above were notified to OIE 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 included the following:

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

3. Surveillance was carried out throughout the country and around the areas of the outbreaks since completion of the operation (including culling, disinfection and clean-up) which has shown no evidence of presence of Avian Influenza Virus.

4. In view of the above, India has declared itself free from Avian Influenza (H5N8 and H5N1) from 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 and notified the same to OIE.

5. It is, however, emphasized that the surveillance will need to be continued throughout the country especially in the vulnerable areas bordering infected countries and in areas visited by migratory birds. It is reiterated that the States should maintain vigil against the disease in spite of declaration of country freedom from Avian Influenza.

Yours faithfully,



Dr. Suresh S. Honnappagol  
Animal Husbandry Commissioner

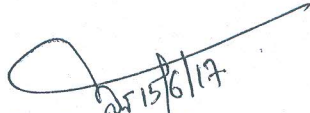
**Copies for information to:**

1. The Secretary, National Disaster Management Authority, NDMA Bhawan, A-1, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi-110029.

2. The Prime Minister's Office (Sh. Anurag Jain, Joint Secretary), New Delhi
3. Sh. A. Giridhar, Joint Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi.
4. The Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. The Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi.
6. The Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
7. The Secretary (Security), Cabinet Secretariat, North Block, New Delhi – 110001.
8. The Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR); Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
9. The Joint Secretary (DM), Ministry of Home Affairs, NDCC-II Building, Jai Singh Road, New Delhi-110001. Director General (M&C), PIB, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

**Copy also to:**

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

  
25/5/17  
Dr. Suresh S. Honnappagol  
Animal Husbandry Commissioner