

Government of India  
Ministry of Agriculture  
**Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries**

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated, the 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2008

**MEDIA BRIEF**

1. As per report received from the High Security Animal Disease Laboratory, Bhopal, samples last tested were found to be negative for Avian Influenza Virus. These included samples forwarded from West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh.
2. A mortality of 79 birds was reported from North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas and Murshidabad districts on 6.2.2008. A total mortality of 1,32,990 poultry birds has been reported from Birbhum, Dakshin Dinajpur, Murshidabad, Nadia, South 24 Parganas, Burdwan, Bankura, Hooghly, Malda, Coochbehar, Purulia, Howrah and North 24 Parganas districts of West Bengal.
3. A total of 86 Rapid Response Teams were engaged on 06.02.2008, which completed culling of 11,820 birds taking the cumulative figure of culling so far to 35.93 lakh in West Bengal. Lower progress as compared to the earlier days was on account of disruption in control and containment activities due to 'bandh' observed in the state.
4. Latest position of destruction of eggs and feed carried out till 06.02.2008 are 14,83,941 and 79,945 kg respectively.
5. In Assam, 12,797 birds were culled on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2008 as part of the preventive culling. In addition, 9,549 day old chicks were also destroyed at the border check-post. A total of 34,423 birds have already been culled in the state out of the target of 89,254. The culling process has already started in Bihar. A total of 1677 birds were culled on 5.2.2007. The Govt. of Jharkhand is engaged in the process of identifying the priority areas for culling. Orissa's plan of action is also awaited.