

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:739
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2012
OUTBREAK OF BIRD FLU
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of cases of bird flu in the country has been increasing;
- (b) if so, the number of states from where bird flu cases have been confirmed;
- (c) whether several countries have banned poultry products from India due to this reason;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to arrest bird flu and help poultry industry in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a) and (b) The number of cases of bird flu in the country during the current financial year have not increased in comparison to the ones reported during last financial year. Bird flu was reported recently at CPDO, Hessarghatta, Bangalore. The control and containment operations were carried out immediately as per the action plan and the disease was contained at source. The Post Operational Surveillance Plan (POSP) is now in progress in the State which will be continued for three months as per the Action Plan. Till date, 20 episodes of bird flu have been reported in the Country since 2006 as given in the Annexure-I

(c) and (d). As per the information received from the Industry and the Indian Embassy, countries such as Kuwait, UAE, Qatar, Oman, Iraq, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Saudi Arabia had imposed ban on import of poultry products from India due to bird flu. Agricultural & Processed Food Products Development Authority (APEDA), had taken up the matter with Indian Missions in these countries with a request to take up the issue with the respective authorities for lifting up the ban.

(e) All the States have been alerted to maintain a strict vigil and continue the surveillance in poultry birds for prevention of occurrence of bird-flu. The Government has an action plan for prevention, control and containment of bird flu. In the aforesaid outbreaks of bird flu, the control and containment measures were carried out promptly and the disease was stopped at the source preventing the further spread.