

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & DAIRYING
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3247
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16TH MARCH, 2021

“MIGRATORY BIRDS AS SOURCE OF AVIAN INFLUENZA”

3247.SHRI RAJENDRA DHEDYA GAVIT: SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU: SHRI SANJAY SADASHIVRAO MANDLIK: SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE: SHRI RAVI KISHAN: SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO: SHRI SUBRAT PATHAK: SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- a) whether migratory birds are the potential source of Avian Influenza in the country;
- b) if so, the number of migratory birds annually visiting in various States including the State of Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha;
- c) whether any study has so far been conducted in this regard, if so, the details in this regards;
- d) the details of States covered for Avian Influenza Test at RDDDL (ER), Kolkata and at NIHSAD, Bhopal; and
- e) the details of time taken by laboratories for conducting/completing Avian Influenza Testing in these two laboratories and in other such laboratories in the country, State-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & DAIRYING
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) to (c) Yes sir, migratory birds could be one of the potential sources for introduction of Avian Influenza virus into the country. As per World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), wild birds, as natural host and reservoir for all types of Avian Influenza viruses, play a major role in the evolution, maintenance, and spread of these viruses. ICAR-National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases (NIHSAD), Bhopal has taken up a project on “Surveillance of avian influenza in wild/ migratory birds”. As for the number of migratory birds visiting various states of the country annually, the Department does not maintain any such data.

(d) Eastern Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (ERDDL), Kolkata is involved in testing Avian Influenza for the States/UTs of West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Jharkhand, Sikkim and Andaman & Nicobar. However, as an OIE recognized reference laboratory, ICAR-NIHSAD, Bhopal provides confirmatory diagnostic services on Avian Influenza to all the States and UTs.

(e) There are 5 (five) Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratories (RDDDLs) located region-wise at Bengaluru (Southern), Pune (Western), Jalandhar (Northern), Kolkata (Eastern) and Guwahati (North-Eastern) and one Central Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (CDDL) located at ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar, Bareilly involved in testing for Avian Influenza. However, ICAR-NIHSAD, Bhopal is the National Reference Laboratory for confirmation of Avian Influenza.

As per information, ICAR-NIHSAD and the other laboratories provide results for the emergency samples received from all states in almost 12-48 hours depending on the time of receipt of the eligible samples there.
