

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 763
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5TH FEBRUARY, 2021**

CONTROL OF BIRD FLU

**763. SHRI TALARI RANGAIAH:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:
SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL:
SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARASWATI:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU:
SHRI SANJAY SADASHIVRAO MANDLIK:
SHRI RANJEETSINGH HINDURAO NAIK NIMBALKAR:
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:
SHRI SHIVAKUMAR C. UDASI:
SHRI BALAK NATH:
MS. PRATIMA BHOUMIK:
SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of reports indicating the threat of bird flu outbreak in several parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the strains detected so far and the steps taken to strengthen the process of lab tests for meat products in the country;
- (c) the total number of human cases of bird flu infection and deaths reported, if any, during the past two months, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the financial and technical assistance provided to the States/UTs to control bird flu/avian influenza and other zoonotic diseases, State/UT-wise;
- (e) whether any vaccine has been developed or procured by the Government to protect people from bird flu/avian influenza and other zoonotic diseases in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken to prevent health complications due to increased use of antibiotics in food products?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) & (b): Yes. The strains detected so far are H5N1, H5N8 and H5. National Institute of High Security Animal Disease (NIHSAD), Bhopal is conducting laboratory testing for bird flu in meat products in the country.

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has a network of 190 primary food testing laboratories under Section 43(1) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and 18 Referral Laboratories under Section 43(2) of the Act. Besides these, there are 18 State Food Testing Laboratories continuing under Section 98 of the FSS Act 2006. Out of these, almost 165 food laboratories are capable of testing meat and meat products. 2 Referral laboratories viz. National Research Centre on Meat Hyderabad and Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, Kochi are dedicated for the purpose of testing meat and fish.

(c): Till date there are no laboratory confirmed human cases of avian influenza reported in the country.

(d): Department under Assistance to States for Control of Animal Disease (ASCAD) supplement the efforts of States/UTs Government for prevention, control and containment of animal diseases including bird flu by providing financial assistance based on the action plan and requirement of the states. The financial assistance provided to the states affected with bird flu is at **Annexure**.

(e): No vaccine has been developed in India or procured by the Government to protect people from bird flu/avian influenza.

Zoonotic diseases for which vaccine has been widely used and procured by the Government is Rabies, Japanese Encephalitis, Kyasanur Forest Disease.

(f): 25 notified primary food testing laboratories and some Referral Laboratories viz CALF-National Dairy Development Board, Gujarat, CIFT, Kochi, NRC, Meat , Hyderabad, National Food Testing Lab, Kolkata and one National Reference Laboratory viz. Edward Food Research and Analysis Centre, Kolkata have facilities for testing of Antibiotic residues.

Annexure

Funds Released to Bird Flu Affected States Under Assistance to States for Control of Animal Disease (ASCAD)

Sl. No	State/UT	Rs. in lakh
1	Bihar	0.00
2	Chhattisgarh	486.25
3	Gujarat	0.00
4	Haryana	694.91
5	Himachal Pradesh	64.78
6	Kerala	0.00
7	Madhya Pradesh	0.00
8	Maharashtra	0.00
9	Punjab	0.00
10	Rajasthan	1041.24
11	Uttar Pradesh	6313.98
12	Uttarakhand	30.62
13	Delhi	0.00
14	Jammu & Kashmir	1724.58
	TOTAL	10356.36