

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5212
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2026

AVIAN INFLUENZA (BIRD FLU) IN KERALA

5212. SHRI K C VENUGOPAL:

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of Avian Influenza (Bird Flu) have been reported in Kerala during the last five years, particularly affecting duck and poultry (hen) populations;
- (b) the details of outbreaks reported, number of birds culled in the State and district during the said period;
- (c) the number of farmers affected by these outbreaks, State and district-wise, during the last five years;
- (d) whether compensation has been paid or is being planned for the affected farmers, including the details of amounts disbursed during the said period and also in the previous such outbreaks;
- (e) the preventive measures taken by the Central Government in coordination with the State Government to control the spread of Bird Flu, including surveillance, biosecurity protocols and movement restrictions;
- (f) whether any special assistance or relief package has been provided to duck farmers in regions such as Kuttanad and other wetland areas where outbreaks are frequent;
- (g) the long-term strategy formulated to strengthen disease surveillance, laboratory capacity, vaccination research and early warning systems to protect poultry farmers and ensure food safety; and
- (h) the steps being taken to contain the future outbreaks including National Action Plan for Avian Influenza, establishment of advanced diagnostic labs in Kerala, promotion of insurance schemes for poultry farmers, etc.?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & DAIRYING
(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

(a) to (c) As per the information received from the state of Kerala, the district-wise details of cases of outbreak reported, culled birds, farmers affected and fund sanctioned in Kerala during the last five years is placed as Annexure-I

(d) to (h) This Ministry provides financial assistance to States under Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD) of Livestock Health & Disease Control programme (LHDCP) on 50:50 sharing basis for culling compensation at prescribed rates in respect of Avian Influenza as preventive measure as per state request. There is no provision in the scheme for special assistance, insurance or relief package with regard to Avian Influenza.

The steps taken by this Ministry to support the State to strengthen disease prevention and control measures, surveillance, diagnostic capacity, early warning etc are as under:

- i. The National Action Plan for Prevention, Control and Containment of Avian Influenza has been formulated and circulated to the States/UTs.
- ii. Advisories issued in advance for strengthening surveillance in high risk areas, enforcing biosecurity protocols, awareness to stakeholders, timely reporting of unusual mortality, coordination with stakeholders etc.
- iii. Based on State demand and scheme guidelines, financial support is provided under ASCAD for awareness, prevention and control of state prioritized livestock diseases, strengthening of Laboratories. During the last five years Central share of Rs. 2843.86 lakh has been released to the State which includes Rs. 520.42 lakh for compensation.
- iv. Regular sensitization of State authorities has been done including the visits of Central Expert Teams and formation of Rapid Response Teams in the State.
- v. Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying , GoI has authorized State Institute of Animal Diseases, Palode for preliminary screening of Avian Influenza.
- vi. The National Animal Disease Referral Expert System (NADRES_v2) of ICAR-NIVEDI, can be accessed on the designated portal from anywhere anytime for advance preparedness and response.

Annexure-I

Year	District	Species	Affected Farmers (No)	Culled Birds (No)	Amount Sanctioned (Rs)
2019-20	Malappuram	Chicken	649	3212	235740
		Duck		37	4995
	Kozhikod	Chicken	353	7284	475780
	Total			10833	716515
2021-22	Kottayam	Chicken	40	141	12690
		Duck		75314	8988490
	Alappuzha	Chicken	51	2041	163040
		Duck		220849	25851415
Total			91	298345	35015635
2022-23	Pathanamthitta	Chicken	138	965	76490
		Duck		82	11070
	Ernakulam	Chicken	8	52	1110
	Thiruvananthapuram	Chicken	88	2260	197870
		Duck		1473	198655
	Kozhikodu	Chicken	65	2101	188250
		Duck		14	1890
	Kottayam	Chicken	224	1452	117730
		Duck		19324	2576640
	Alappuzha	Chicken	60	1412	56170
Duck		55242		5970870	
Total			583	84377	9396745
2023-24	NIL				
2024-25	Pathanamthitta	Chicken	62	852	127110
		Duck		5033	805280
	Kottayam	Chicken	214	10061	772690
		Duck		12703	1091650
		Quail		37	1480
	Alappuzha	Chicken	880	58734	3761485
Duck		71806		11479060	
Quail		9246		293960	
Total			1156	168472	18332715
