F.No.25-1/2002-CZA(Vol.II)(AK) 4988/2018

BY POST / E-MAIL
DATE: 24.12.2018

To,
The Director/Officer in charge of all recognised zoos,

Subject: Confirmation of Avian Influenza (H5N1) in Odisha and Bihar - regarding

Sir / Madam,

It is to inform that this office has come to know of the confirmation of Avian Influenza (H5N1) in case of chicken, ducks and crows in Munger District of Bihar and Puri District of Odisha respectively.

As you are aware, Avian Influenza is a highly contagious viral disease designated as Trans-boundary Animal Disease (TAD) that transmits mainly through migratory birds.

In view of the above, all the zoos in the country are being alerted to prepare to prevent ingress of Avian Influenza among birds in captivity.

This office has issued advisory to zoos on Avian Influenza vide Circulars dated 28.01.2004, 20.09.2005, 20.02.2006 and 21.10.2016 respectively. Also, the Central Zoo Authority has circulated ‘Suggested Health Monitoring Protocol for Zoos’ vide Circular dated 18.11.2004. The advisory issued by the Central Zoo Authority is readily available on the website of the CZA (http://cza.nic.in).

Further, this office in collaboration with the Indian Veterinary Research Institute has published ‘Standards, Guidelines and Protocol on Disease Diagnosis and Cure of Wild animals in Indian Zoos’. The same may be referred to. This is also available on the website of the Central Zoo Authority.

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In addition to the above, you are advised to coordinate with the State Animal Husbandry Department and ensure implementation of the Action Plan on 'Prevention, Control and Containment of Avian Influenza' prescribed by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DAHD), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India. Copy of the same is available on website of the CZA (http://cza.nic.in) as well as the DAHD (www.dahd.nic.in).

Further, you may avail the technical expertise, if required, from the Indian Veterinary Research Institute that has been designated by the CZA as National Referral Centre for all zoos in the country.

In this regard, it is to reiterate that Bio-security measures be improved in zoos to avoid spread of Avian Influenza (H5N1) among captive animals. Also, the Health Advisory Committee of the Zoo be consulted to review the preparedness of the respective zoo and for necessary technical assistance.

It is advised to ensure appropriate disease surveillance measures in the zoos as mandated under Schedule 5(6), 5(7) and 5(8) of Rule 10 under the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009.

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. Anup Kumar Nayak)
Member Secretary

Copy for information and necessary action to:

1. The Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare
2. The Joint Director (Wildlife), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India
3. The Chief Wildlife Warden of all States / UTs.
4. The Municipal Commissioner of Ahmedabad, Cuttack, Gwalior, Indore, Mumbai, Pune, Rajkot, Surat and Vadodara,
5. The Managing Director of Steel Plants at Bhilai, Bokaro, Jamshedpur & Rourkela