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Voluntary - Public

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GAIN Report Number: IN9145

India

Post: New Delhi

India Declares Itself NAI (H5N1) Free

Report Categories:

Poultry and Products

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Report Highlights:

On October 22, 2009, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture declared India free of Notifiable Avian Influenza (H5N1). India has also notified its AI free status to the World Organization of Animal Health (OIE) on October 27, 2009.

General Information:

Introduction: This report provides a brief overview of the Ministry of Agriculture official order dated October 22, 2009 on India's declaration of avian influenza (AI) freedom. According to this notification, India declared itself free from Notifiable Avian Influenza (H5N1) on October 22, 2009. Additionally, on October 27, 2009, India notified its AI free status to the World Organization of Animal Health (OIE).

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a *cursory* review of the subject announcement and therefore

should not under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests.

Details on the office order no. G.S.R. 50-213(1)/2008-LDT(AQ), dated October 22, 2009

Type of Regulation: Final

Publication Date: October 22, 2009 (released on the Ministry of
Agriculture website)

October 27, 2009

Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF), Ministry of Agriculture (MOA),
Government of India (GOI).

Note: The text of the DADF's official order can be assessed at: <http://www.dahd.nic.in/>
and the OIE notification can be seen at:
http://www.oie.int/wahis/reports/en_fup_0000008557_20091027_155555.pdf

Background:

According to the Ministry of Agriculture public reports, the states of West Bengal, Assam and Sikkim reported 28 outbreaks of avian influenza (AI) from November 2008 to May 2009, with the last reported case on May 27, 2009 in the Uttar Dinajpur district of West Bengal. The first outbreak of AI was confirmed on November 21, 2008. All outbreaks were reported from backyard poultry in small farms. A total bird population of 669,073 was destroyed during the AI control operations in the infected areas, per the Indian government's OIE notification.

Further, also according to the Ministry of Agriculture, AI surveillance was carried out in the country as per article 2.7.12.4 of the OIE terrestrial Animal Health code (2008). Final disinfection was completed on June 8, 2009.

The websites are mentioned for readers' convenience; USDA does **NOT** in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with the information contained in the above websites.