

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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India

Post: New Delhi

India Reports Tripura HPAI to OIE-Bird Deaths in Bihar

Report Categories:

Pest/Disease Occurrences

Poultry and Products

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Livestock and Products

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Report Highlights:

On March 16, 2012, India reported Tripura state's second Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) outbreak to the OIE. This is India's sixth HPAI notification to the OIE in 2012. Also, up to 400 chickens in India's Bihar state are reported dead. Initial reports indicate that the deaths are due to poor management and hygiene practices and that HPAI is not the culprit.

General Information:

Tripura Notifies HPAI to the OIE: On March 16, 2012, India reported Tripura state's second highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) outbreak to the OIE. (Please see GAIN IN2039 for Post reporting on this outbreak). This is India's sixth HPAI notification to the OIE in 2012. The details of the GOI's March 16 notification can be accessed at: [March 16, 2012 OIE Report](#). The outbreak was reported on a government-run poultry farm in the Gandhigram area of West Tripura district. The GOI reports that 3,000 birds are considered susceptible to the disease and 2,000 birds are dead as a result of the disease.

Tripura Implements HPAI Control Measures: In response to the outbreak, the Government of Tripura is carrying out the GOI's protocol, as described in "[Action Plan of Animal Husbandry For Preparedness, Control and Containment of Avian Influenza.](#)" This includes destruction of all domestic poultry within a 3-km radius zone of the outbreak, creation of an intensive surveillance system in a 10-km radius zone, poultry market closures, a prohibition on the sale and transportation of poultry products in the affected area, a ban on the movement of farm personnel, and clean-up and disinfection of the contaminated premises with proper disposal of dead birds and infected materials. The last outbreak of HPAI in Tripura was reported in January 2012 at an Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) poultry farm in the Mohanpur area of the West Tripura District in Tripura State (see GAIN IN2014). For additional reporting on 2012 HPAI outbreaks in poultry in India, please see GAIN IN2007, IN2008, IN2010, IN2014, and IN2019.

Strange Bird deaths Reported in Bihar State: Post is investigating the reported death of up to 400 chickens in India's Bihar state. State animal health officials have reported to Post that the cause of death is bacterial diarrhea caused by poor management and hygiene practices. Bihar animal health officials have sent samples to local laboratories and are awaiting further results.

Implications for Human Health: To date, no human infections due to HPAI have been reported from any of the regions where poultry HPAI outbreaks have occurred. Expanded surveillance in the HPAI affected area could possibly detect human infection with LPAI viruses.

Trade:

Industry representatives maintain that the outbreaks occurred outside of India's major poultry production areas and will not affect trade. However, state government officials expressed concern to post that the frequent outbreaks in Tripura state will affect the state poultry industry.

Table 1. India: Culling Statistics as of February 4, 2012

	Outbreak reported in	Birds Susceptible	Birds reported dead	Birds culled
1	Rural backyard poultry, Khorda, Odisha	35,589	3	31,912
2	A state government run poultry farm, William Nagar, Meghalaya	20,194	2,732	6,538
3	Rural backyard poultry, Mayurbhanj, Odisha	11,235	19	11,216
4	ICAR poultry farm, Mohanpur, Tripura	12,385	4,229	6,204
5	A government run poultry farm, Bhubaneswar, Odisha	34,857	5,015	NA
6	A government run poultry farm. Gandhigram, West Tripura district, Tripura	3,000	2,000	NA
	Total	117,260	13,998	55,870

Source: [March 16, 2012 OIE Report](#)