

Kerala poultry vehicles banned in DK district

Vehicles entering Karnataka to be sprayed with disinfectant; poultry farm owners told to keep farms clean

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mangaluru

AFTER confirmed cases of bird flu were reported in Kottayam and Alappuzha in Kerala, the Dakshina Kannada district administration on Thursday banned the entry of vehicles carrying poultry and related products into the district. The order also stated that all vehicles carrying poultry products from Karnataka to Kerala and Kerala vehicles coming to the state for poultry products will be sprayed with disinfectants at the inter-state borders. Vehicles that are not clean will be sent back.

The departments of Health and Animal Husbandry are keeping a close watch on bird sanctuaries, water storage units and poultry farms in Dakshina Kannada district. Owners of poultry farms have been asked to maintain cleanliness and avoid unnecessary movement of people near the farms.

They have been asked to immediately inform the veterinary department in case they see unnatural deaths of poultry and symptoms of bird flu.

Measures have also been taken to spray disinfectants on vehicles that visit poultry farms and railway brake vans that transport poultry products.

Crows found dead, sent for testing

Six crows were found dead in Manjanadi near Deralakatte in Mangaluru city on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursday morning, viscera samples of the crows were sent for testing to a laboratory in Bengaluru.

Deputy Commissioner K V Rajendra said they were not sure as to whether the crows died due to poisoning or due to some other reason. He said the samples were sent for testing as they did not want to take any chances in view the bird flu. He added that the results were expected on Friday.

Central team to step in today

Kottayam: Even though the authorities have successfully contained the avian influenza virus, which was detected among ducks in a farm in Neendoor panchayat, the district administration has decided to continue the vigil at least for a few more days. Meanwhile, the team appointed by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare would visit the bird flu-affected area in the district on Friday to assess the situation here. Dr Minhaj Alam, joint secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries, and Dr S K Singh, director, National Centre for Disease Control will meet Collector M Anjana as part of the visit. They would support the health department in its efforts to prevent the spread of the disease to humans.

Four birds found dead in Chikkaballapur

V VELAYUDHAM @ Chikkaballapur

FOUR birds including, two migratory water birds, were found dead at Gopalakrishna Amman Kere in Chikkaballapur on Thursday. However, as per preliminary reports, it was not due to bird flu. Officials are waiting for the final reports from the Institute of Animal Health & Veterinary Biologicals in Bengaluru.



One of the birds that was found in Chikkaballapur

Two black-winged stilts were found dead while a red wattled lapwing and a green winged teal were found to be very sick. Veterinarians sent the four birds to Bengaluru under the supervision of Chikkaballapur Deputy Commissioner R Latha. The other two birds died on the way. According to veterinarians, the black winged stilts are migratory birds and came from Northern Europe. The red wattled lapwing and green winged teal are native to the country.

Speaking to *TNIE*, the DC said, "There are nearly 1,500 birds at Gopalakrishna Amman Kere. Several migratory birds come to the lake in season. The preliminary reports indicate that the birds may have died due to an infection caused due to roundworms." The DC asked the people in the district to not panic.