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ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN
Ministry of Agriculture & Forests
Tashichhodzong
Thimphu: Bhutan



SECRETARY

SEC/MoA/12/2010-2011/ 96

12th September 2011

NOTIFICATION

As a response to the confirmed outbreak of Bird Flu (H5N1) in Dhubri district of Assam vide official notification of OIE – WAHIS (8/9/2011), the National Incident Command Centre (NICC) has been activated as of 12 September 2011. As such, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Royal Government of Bhutan has decided to implement the following measures to prevent incursion of the BIRD FLU virus into the country:-

- Activation of Veterinary Vigilance Team by Department of Livestock for clinical and laboratory surveillance and public awareness activities in the high risk areas of Southern Dzongkhags;
- Regulatory and Quarantine Activities including disinfection at all the entry points and strategic check posts to be stepped up and reinforced by BAFRA;
- Import of poultry and poultry products from India shall be banned with immediate effect;
- All import permits issued till date for the import of poultry and poultry products from India are revoked with immediate effect. However, all processed poultry and poultry products which are in transit from any part of India as of 12th September 2011 shall be allowed entry into the country provided written confirmation on this transit from Indian suppliers along with other supporting documents are submitted to the concerned BAFRA offices from where import permit was applied or to the Head Office for further verification and approval.
- Import of day-old chick (DOCs), processed frozen chicken and eggs from unaffected countries will be permitted only by air to Paro and this condition shall be reviewed based on the disease scenario in the exporting States/countries;
- Import of egg cartons and egg trays shall be allowed only if they are new and if originating from non-affected states of India;



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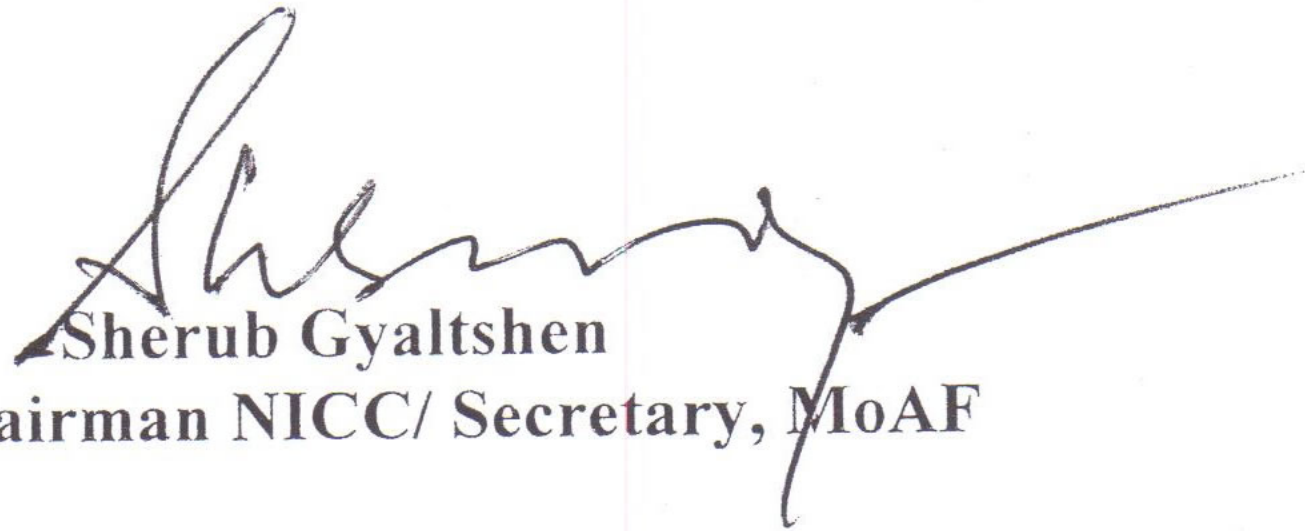
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- Transport of animal and poultry feeds manufactured in Bhutan through West Bengal and Assam shall be allowed. However, all feed bags shall be fully covered and sealed at the origin in the presence of BAFRA officials. The seal shall be verified and opened in the presence of BAFRA official at the entry point of the destination.
- These recommendations will be reviewed and amended as and when deemed necessary based on the situation of outbreak in India and also on findings of risk assessment study.

This notification is issued for kind information and necessary support.


Sherub Gyaltshen
Chairman NICC/ Secretary, MoAF

Copy to:

1. Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Agriculture & Forests for his kind information.
2. Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Health for his kind information.
3. Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Home & Cultural Affairs for his kind information.
4. Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Economic Affairs for his kind information.
5. Chief, Royal Bhutan Police, Thimphu for kind information and support.
6. Secretary, Ministry of Health for his kind information.
7. Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs for his kind information.
- ✓ 8. Director, Department of Public Health, MOH, for needful action.
9. Director, Department of Trade, MoEA for needful action.
10. Director, Department of Disaster Management, MoHCA for needful action
11. Director, Bureau of Law and Order, MoHCA, Thimphu
12. Director General, DoL, MoAF for needful action.
13. Executive Director, BAFRA, MoAF for needful action
14. Programme Director, NCAH, DOL, MoAF for needful action
15. Programme Director, ICS, MOAF for needful action