

**SOP FOR TRANSPORTATION OF POULTRY TO  
NORTH EASTERN STATES THROUGH ASSAM**

**Dated 02/06/2023**

These Standard Operating Procedures for transportation of poultry through Assam to North Eastern States is prepared in view of the partial ban imposed by the Government of Assam on transportation of poultry to the North Eastern States through Assam and also in view of the recent Avian Influenza in Jharkhand so as to prevent and control the scheduled disease in the state of Assam.

1. Transportation of live poultry may be allowed to North Eastern States through Assam by rail as well as by road from disease-free states (excluding Assam) subject to fulfillment of relevant provisions of the "Transport of Animals Rules, 1978", Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960", Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and complying all bio-security measures as per National Action Plan (NAP).
2. Transportation of one day old chick may be allowed to the state of Assam by rail , road or air on the same conditions for opening a new farm/revival of existing poultry farm.
3. The intended transporter shall inform the Officer- in-Charge of respective Police Station at the Inter-State Border at Srirampur in Kokrajhar district and Boxirhat in Dhubri district at least 48 hours prior to entry of the poultry-carrying vehicles.
4. The vehicles transporting poultry illegally, if intercepted, at the western border of the state shall be sent back from the border.
5. The vehicles carrying poultry if entered illegally to Assam or vehicles caught unloading poultry consignment in Assam shall be seized by police and accordingly shall inform the Deputy Commissioner/SDO(Civil) of the respective District/Sub-division.
6. On receipt of such information, the Deputy Commissioner/SDO(Civil) shall take necessary steps for culling and disposal of the seized poultry in close co-ordination with police, A.H. & Veterinary Department and Public Works Department(PWD) and Public Health Engineering Department.
7. The Civil Administration (DC & SDO(Civil) shall provide land and necessary logistics for culling and disposal of carcasses.
8. After culling and disposal of poultry, the concerned District A.H. & Veterinary Officer(DVO) shall make necessary arrangement for proper sanitization of seized vehicles and site of disposal.
9. Veterinarians may be deputed for health check-up and treatment of diseases at the entry points viz. Boxirhat and Srirampur as and when their services is sought by the Police authority having jurisdiction.
10. Each consignment of live poultry must have recent Health Certificate (not more than 07 days between testing and loading in wagons or trucks) issued by a competent authority (not below the rank of a registered Government Veterinary Officer).The certificate must incorporate the followings:
  - o Breed and Age of poultry.
  - o The transit poultry are originated from Avian Influenza free zone.
11. A Transit certificate under Rule 96 of Transport of Animals Rules, 1978 allowing transportation of the animals issued by the competent authority (not below the rank of Assistant Director of A.H. & Veterinary Department of the state having jurisdiction of the place of animal origin) must accompany each consignment from the state/ district of origin indicating:-
  - o Start date of shipment
  - o Source and destination point of poultry
  - o Purpose of transport
  - o Number of poultry transported

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- Details of sender, transporter and recipient
  - Details of issuing authority of health certificate
12. Poultry carried by truck etc. will be checked at the entry points at Srirampur in Kokrajhar and Boxirhat in Dhubri district by police personnel. Blood samples may be collected by veterinarians for random testing of poultry for Avian Influenza at designated laboratory as and when the Government of Assam directs to do so.
  13. In case of poultry found to be infected or not fit, then those birds will have to be culled by civil administration with the assistance of A.H. & Veterinary Department and Police personnel.
  14. In addition to above, the following measures are also to be complied with.
    - Respective State Government of the source of poultry should be intimated in writing by the party concerned and the said State Government should inform the Government of respective destination that consignment of poultry is free from Avian Influenza. Only those birds are to be transported through Assam.
    - The transit consignment of poultry shall not be disembarked in any place for any purpose within Assam.
    - The trains or truck shall not have any stop over points within Assam unless it is of utmost necessity. Individual accompanying poultry should take all sanitary measures.
    - Carcass of poultry should not be thrown out of the train/truck along the transit route.
    - Local A.H. & Veterinary authority may verify the consignment as and when desired. In case of death of poultry, the transporter will have to inform the local A.H. & Veterinary officials for proper disposal of carcass.
  15. Record of consignment, transporter with license number, name of consignee, address of consignee is to be kept at the respective police station at the entry point of the state and is to be forwarded to the Director, of A. H. & Veterinary Department, Assam, Guwahati-3.
  16. Each vehicle carrying consignment of live poultry will have to be sanitized at the inter-state border of Assam before entry into and exit from Assam (both up and down journey).The vehicle should be sanitized at the cost of transporter/sender/consignee.
  17. Similarly, each wagon carrying consignment of live poultry will have to be sanitized before entry into and exit from Assam at their own cost (both up and down journey) so that Avian Influenza does not spread to any part of the country.
  18. If the transporter fails to comply strictly with conditions of this SOP during and pre and post transportation of poultry through Assam and information of such violation is brought to the notice of the competent authority, the said transporter shall be prevented from further transporting of poultry through Assam.
  19. The intra-district and inter-district transportation of poultry are allowed in the state of Assam in the interest of local poultry farmers subject to strict adherence to all the bio-security measures and terms and conditions laid down in the Government of Assam notifications issued from time to time in respect of control and containment of Avian Influenza.
  20. This SOP may be reviewed by the Department as and when required in order to prevent Avian Influenza in Assam.

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