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Media alert from the Media Scanning & Verification Cell, IDSP-NCDC.

Alert ID	Publication Date	Reporting Date	Place Name	News Source/Publication Language
6149	10.05.2021	10.05.2021	Ludhiana Punjab	The Tribune English Newspaper 10 <sup>th</sup> May, 2021/Page No. 05
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Culling of 65,000 poultry birds in Kila Raipur begins in district Ludhiana, Punjab</b>			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU- Ludhiana, SSU-Punjab			

The Animal Husbandry Department has started culling 65,000 poultry birds at Suba Poultry Farm in Kila Raipur after some birds tested positive for avian flu.

As many as 28 teams of veterinary officials have been constituted to complete the culling and containment operations. The whole process is likely to take two or three days for completion.

Deputy Director (Animal Husbandry) Dr Paramdeep Singh Walia said huge pits had been dug to bury the culled birds suspected to be infected with H5N8 virus.

Heavy police force was deployed to cordon off the area in the 'infected zone', which is one-kilometre area around the poultry farm, before starting the operation on Sunday. "The poultry farm will be sanitised after the operation ends," said Dr Walia, adding that their aim was to contain the infection. "Initially, we have started culling of poultry birds which were found to be infected by the National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases Lab, Bhopal," said Dr Walia.

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**Disclaimer:- This is a media alert subject to verification.**

**Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control,  
Ministry Of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India**

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Later, authorities will inspect domesticated birds within 1-10 km radius that has been declared as 'surveillance zone'.

Dr Walia said people who had consumed cooked poultry food should not worry as the virus is killed during heating. "Boiled eggs, cooked and roasted chicken do not contain virus," he said, adding that the virus was transmitted among the birds only.

Ludhiana DC Varinder Kumar Sharma had earlier formed a nine-member team to supervise the operations.

### 28 teams set up

- 28 teams of veterinary officials constituted for culling and containment operations
- The process is likely to be completed in two-three days
- Heavy police force deployed to cordon off 'infected zone'

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