Friday, March 28, 2014

To,

The Commissioner
Department of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Sciences
Vv Tower, Dr. BR Ambedkar Veedhi,
Bangalore 560001

Subject: Guidelines for Poultry Sector in Karnataka

Sir,

With reference to the above subject and reference we herewith submit a set of recommendations for your kind consideration for implementing in the proposed guidelines on poultry sector in the state.

Sir, we believe that the poultry sector will boost the rural economy and also create employment opportunities to an additional 10 million population in the next 10 years to come. Hence we request the state government to kindly consider the suggested guidelines (attached) and help the poultry sector grow further to make Karnataka state a hub for the Poultry Business in India.

Warm regards

For Karnataka Poultry Farmers & Breeders Association

Executive Secretary

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Suggested Guidelines for Poultry Sector in Karnataka

Recommendations from KPFBA

Poultry sector has moved a long way coming to a position of creating employment opportunities close to 5 Lakh families in the state of Karnataka. In addition, it is also creating alternative source of income to the agricultural farmers of the state throughout the year and financially impacting the agricultural sector of the state. The sector is also creating induced and allied businesses and jobs. With this the sector is not only improving socio-economic status in rural Karnataka but also in urban areas. KPFBA herewith submits the above set of recommendations to the Government of Karnataka to consider implementing in the proposed guidelines on poultry sector in the state. This will boost the rural economy and also create employment opportunities to an additional 10 million population in the next 10 years to come.

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POULTRY FARMING IN KARNATAKA

A. INTRODUCTION:
Poultry farming is a major agricultural activity in Karnataka providing direct and indirect employment to more than 6 million people in Karnataka. Poultry farming has played a pivotal role in energizing rural economy and providing nutrition in the form of chicken & egg to Indians by being a rich source of proteins, vitamins and minerals at an affordable price to all segments of society. It has not only provided nutrition but also played an important role in overcoming malnutrition.

B. IMPETUS TO OTHER AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES
Poultry farming consumes 60% of the 21 million tons of maize produced in the country. Karnataka is the second largest producer of maize in the country with 4 Million metric tons annually contributing about 19% to the maize production in the country, of which 2.4 million metric tons are being used by the poultry producers in Karnataka. The maize growing farmers of the state are directly dependent on poultry farming for selling of their produce.

20-25% of the total soya grown in Karnataka is utilized by poultry farms. This is also good income for soya & soya extraction plants in the state.

The other agricultural products such as Jowar, Bajra, Broken rice, Rice Polish and De-Oiled Rice Bran are also utilized in making poultry feeds. The agricultural byproducts such as sunflower, soya de-oiled cakes and rice bran are being converted into high quality protein such as chicken and egg.

C. EGGS & MEAT PRODUCTION IN KARNATAKA
Karnataka produces 415 million Kgs of Chicken meat every year and 7 billion eggs every year contributing 13% to India's production which has 3rd position in Egg production and 4th position in Broiler production in the world

D. INCLUSIVE & SUSTAINABLE GROWTH
Poultry farming is rural based and it touches all the segments of society. Poultry generates employment in rural areas for unskilled, semiskilled and skilled workforce. Approximately 50 lac families are employed in poultry farming & its allied activities.

E. HUGE POTENTIAL FOR FURTHER GROWTH
A nation-wide survey reveals average egg consumption per person in the state is only 40, way below the recommended 181 per annum. (National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad).
Every extra one egg consumed & 100 gms chicken consumed per capita will create 25,000 more jobs.

The industry has made tremendous strides in an annual growth of 7-8% in layers and 10-12% in broilers, the highest growth in the agriculture sector. Poultry farming generates revenue in excess of Rs.6,00,000 million per annum and contributes 1% to the national GDP.

There has been tremendous advancement in the farming sector across the world to produce healthy egg and meat. Simultaneously, with the increased consumer awareness on the safety and quality of food, it becomes imperative for the producer to maintain the safety standards in the production of safe food for human consumption. This becomes all the more important to meet the requirements under the World Trade Organization (WTO), the regional trade agreements and the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement. India is now gearing itself to maintain the international standards by adopting the guidelines and recommendations under WTO Agreement. But there are no regulations adopted at producing centers for prevention of contamination or residues in agricultural or livestock products. Producer is unaware of the consequences of contamination or the residues in the food products.

Public grievances against the poultry farms have been increasing across the country in recent past due to fly menace and other related environmental issues. Under these circumstances, several litigations have reached the courts and many farms are forced to close down the operations across the country.

In view of the above, considering the importance of poultry farming in the state, the Government of Karnataka has constituted a committee to formulate guidelines in the following lines: management, protection, encouragement & incentives.

*KPFBA welcomes the Karnataka Government initiatives in implementing guidelines for poultry sector. The farming community firmly believes that the Governments action in this regard will further facilitate the growth of poultry sector in Karnataka.*

*Since poultry farming has grown rapidly in last two decades and also the current infrastructure created with huge investment, we recommend that the new guidelines may be implemented to the upcoming new farms only.*
KPFBA RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADOPT IN FORMULATING THE GUIDELINES FOR POULTRY SECTOR

A. GENERAL POLICIES:

1. Farm Size Classification
For regulatory purposes, chicken farms may be classified as small, medium and large based on the number of animals; large farms contain 30,000 or more chickens, medium farms contain 9,000 to 29,999 chickens and small farms contain fewer than 9,000 chickens

   i. Poultry farming has to be considered as an agricultural activity and should be provided with all the facilities extended to agriculture sector and it should be made applicable to the poultry farming also ex. Subsidies, tax exemption, electricity concessions.

   ii. Licensing of any poultry activity should be with the animal husbandry departmental technical staff as they are the custodians of animal health.

   iii. Recently poultry farms have become the target from antisocial elements for ransom. This has to be checked by taking appropriate preventive measures by the Government.

   iv. Raw materials like Soya, Maize, Rice Bran and SF cake etc. have to be made available on priority basis and at subsidized rates to the poultry sector.

   v. Poultry is been kept in the negative list in the recent Karnataka Industrial Policy 2009-14, under the heading List of Industrial Activities / Enterprises not eligible for Incentives and Concessions. We request the State Government to consider Poultry being an eligible sector for incentives and concessions too.

B. SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR ECO FRIENDLY POULTRY FARMING

   i. Location of the farm
   a) Site inside poultry farm should be leveled as far as possible and gradient has to be maintained for draining of rain water to outside the farm by proper drainage system connecting to general drainage system and/or rain water harvesting system.
   b) Roads should be formed to access the sheds & sheds should be constructed in east-west direction
   c) Distance between two different farms should be at least one kilo meter for biosecurity reasons.
d) The poultry farm shall not be located within,
   - 200 meters from major drinking water Source
   - 400 meters from any major drinking water reservoir

e) The poultry sheds shall not be located within, 10 meters from farm boundary

f) The poultry sheds shall be positioned, At least 2 meters above the water table and ground level

g) The entire poultry farm should be fenced with barbed wire/linked mesh up to a height of 1.5 meters with appropriately secured entrance with gate.

h) The poultry farm shall raise green belt all around the farm with minimum of two rows plantation of not more than 3 meters height

i) Sheds surroundings and the farm premises must always be kept clean and dry without any vegetation and weed.

j) The farm should have regular pest /rodent control programme.

k) No open burning or indiscriminate dumping of any dead birds / feathers / offals, unused material like litter / empty gunnies / containers etc...shall be adopted within or outside the farm premises

l) No obstruction shall be created for any water course within the farm or outside the farm boundary.

m) Proven non-leaking system should be placed in sheds to avoid wastage of water and loose litter condition

n) Distance between the sheds should be at least 50 ft in open houses

o) The drainage for rain water should be provided around the sheds to ensure easy draining of water from poultry farm and to maintain dry litter

p) Farm usage should be of maximum 60% built up area in the available land.

q) The minimum height of 6 feet for proper removal of litter and cleaning of sheds should be provided in case of raised platform sheds.

r) Disposal of dead birds, broken eggs and hatchery waste should be compulsorily be done by incinerator / deep pit burial process or rendering and composting.

ii. FLY CONTROL PROGRAMME

   a) Efficient Fly control programme has to be strictly adhered to. The number of flies can be kept under control by efficient fly control programme largely by manure management. Suitable methods must be followed to control larvae and adult Flies as this could be different in different types of management systems like.
b) **Deep Litter:** There won’t be much fly menace in this system of rearing since the litter is mixed with paddy husk, wood shavings, ground nut husk etc., and these fillers make the litter dry and there won’t be much fly menace. There could be fly menace in this system if the litter becomes wet because of rain, bad waterers etc. then that portion can be replaced with different husk.

c) **Deep litter slots and California type of rearing:** Several methods of fly menace control have been experimented and the following are some of them giving varied results.

- **Chemical methods:** To control adult flies and larvae has been used pesticides and larvicides have been used. The disadvantage is the flies get resistance and further use of the same pesticide or laricide will be useless. Chemical sprays also hinder the production parameters of the birds if haphazardly sprayed.
- Some chemicals like cyromezines were used earlier in the feed to reduce the larval content. Now this also is not useful since the flies have developed resistance to it.
- Some physical methods were used to control the fly menace with varied results.
  - All the physical methods ultimately result in making the litter dry. If we keep the litter dry there won’t be any fly menace.
  - Remove the litter every 2-3 days and take it out of the farm, here also there won’t be any fly menace.
  - Make the floor of the shed hard by concreting or by any other method this will facilitate easier method to remove the litter daily or 2-3 days once. If we do this there won’t be any fly problem.
  - The litter has to be transported out of the farm.
  - If litter cannot be removed from the farm the litter can be composted or stored in the farm with suitable methods of composting or using plastic sheets below and above and adding some chemicals to destroy the larvae.
  - The litter can be scraped from the floor by using scrapers which are mechanized or manual.
  - The litter so removed can be used to produce bio-gas which can be used for other uses on the farm. The methods of producing bio gas are available in the University of Agricultural Sciences or other institutions which give inputs to produce the bio gas.
  - Now some people have used belt systems under the cages of the birds which take the litter mechanically to the other end of the shed into the pit or a truck which will receive litter from the belt and transported out of the farm.
Some people have created water pond down below the cages, and the litter falls into this pond and avoids production of larvae of flies and this way fly menace can be controlled. This has been done with varied results.

So to control fly menace any of the methods described above would make the litter dry or transported out of the farm which would result in effective fly control system.

C. HEALTH COVERAGE IN POULTRY FARMS
For health coverage in Poultry the existing guidelines in the Government can be followed.

i. PROTECTION, ENCOURAGEMENT & INCENTIVES:
The new farmers to strictly adhere to the proposed guidelines and the Government can encourage such farmers with incentives such as subsidy and in unforeseen calamities/diseases it may be adequately compensated.

ii. RECOMMENDATIONS ON LOCAL ADMINISTRATION AUTHORITY
In the event of order from the local authorities on closure of the farms, the poultry farmer should have the option of continuing the farm activities by converting the farm into environmentally controlled sheds with proper disposal of litter/manure.

In the event of public grievances about the poultry farms that may be referred to the local officials from AH department giving ample time (4-6 months) to the farmer to rectify the defects at the farm.

Veterinary Officers from Animal husbandry should ensure all these conditions are followed for all new farms and existing farms. Permission of layout of poultry farm should be regularized for old farms from Animal Husbandry department with all above conditions and also new farm has to get prior permission from animal husbandry department.

Poultry farming is an agricultural activity and is in a revenue land hence need not to obtain permission from the Panchayat.

Similar to agriculture irrigation pumps/sericulture rearing houses, the electricity may be sanctioned by the KEB based on AH Deputy Director’s certificate.
The feed mill may be exempted from getting license as the feed produced is for captive consumption.

Pollution control board consent is not necessary since poultry farm does not emit any hazardous pollutants to air or water (Extract of KSPCB Dated 05/11/2012)

D. ALL POULTRY FARMS SHALL BE SET UP AS PER FOLLOWING SITING CRITERIA

i. ALL POULTRY FARM SHALL ADOPT FOLLOWING METHOD FOR MANURE STORAGE & MANAGEMENT
   a) The litter manure storage dumps shall be minimum 2 meters above the water table and of sufficient size based on the type and number of birds handled. Its base should be constructed with stone slabs of concrete or impermeable compacted clay.
   b) The litter / manure storage dumps shall have a 25 meters buffer strip all around to keep out of wet areas / drainage discharges.
   c) The dry manure dump shall be covered with permanent roof or with plastic / similar material to prevent air emissions and the precipitation falling on it.

ii. To minimise odour / gaseous pollution the poultry farms shall have,
   a) Proper ventilation and free flow of air over manure collection points to keep it dry
   b) Protect manure from runoff water and cover it to avoid dust and odours in storage pits
   c) Design, construct, operate and maintain waste storage facilities to contain all manure, litter and washings.
   d) Collect carcasses promptly on regular basis and dispose them appropriately without damaging the environment
iii. ALL POULTRY FARMS SHALL DISPOSE DEAD BIRDS BY ADOPTING ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS

a) Dead birds disposal – burial:
   - The dead birds arising from day to day farm activity shall be separated from other live birds promptly and should be stored in closed containers / disposed of within 24 hours by following any of the appropriate disposal methods.
   - The dead bird’s burial pit shall be of 3-4 meters in depth and 2 meters length and 1.5 M breadth. This pit has to be provided with a pipe in the center measuring 1 ft. diameter to drop the dead birds and it shall have a closing cap. This pit should be located above minimum of 3 meters from the ground water table.
   - We can have 2-3 such burial pits in each farm so that alternatively these pits can be used.
   - The dead birds burial pit shall be provided with a vermin / fly proof cover made up of wooden / metal / concrete having a central operable lid of proper size for day to day droppings of carcasses.
   - When the pit is full, a compacted soil cover of 0.5 meters shall be provided with the top of the covered soil well above the ground level
   - The distance between any two burial pits shall not be less than 1 meter

b) Dead birds disposal – Incineration
   - The incinerator shall be located in down wind direction to the poultry houses and populated areas
   - The incinerator capacity shall be of sufficient size such that no un-burnt carcasses are left in a day’s operation
   - In an unlikely event, the unusual deaths in large numbers will have to be brought to the notice of veterinarians concerned and remedial measures sought.

E. IN CASE THE POULTRY FARMS HAVE INSTALLED FEED MILL THEN THESE SHALL ENSURE THAT:

   - Multi clones shall be installed in the feed mill (????)
   - All the workers working in the feed mill should be provided with dust masks
F. WASTE WATER DISCHARGE

i. The waste water generated from the cleaning operations (after each batch removal) shall be collected in appropriate holding tank and put to use in the green belt.

ii. The process of treatment of waste water
   a) Improve drainage, reduce standing water and water ditches to control mosquitoes and flies.
   b) Reduce water use and spills from drinking devices by preventing overflow or leakages and using calibrated, well-maintained self-watering devices.
   c) Installation of vegetative filters (reed filters) and surface water diversions to direct clean run offs around areas containing wastes will help in decreasing spread of pollutants.
   d) Use of pressure pumps, hot water or steam in cleaning activities instead of cold water and plain water scrubs can tremendously improve sanitation and reduce the quantities of wash water effluents considerably.
   e) Implement buffer zones to surface water bodies as appropriate to local conditions and requirements, and avoid land spreading of manure within these areas.

G. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Apart from the above code practice, the following Best Management Practices which facilitates for control of the generation or delivery of pollutants shall be followed by poultry farms thereby preventing environmental degradation.

i. Efficient feed management practices should be followed
   ii. Do not recycle feed bags
   iii. Best pest management practices to be followed
   iv. General sanitation and hygiene
   v. Disposal of Solid Wastes
   vi. Gainful utilization and recovery of wastes

Of the above the last two are very important.
i. DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTES

a) Place primary importance to minimize waste generation in regular farm management schedule  
b) Properly collect, sort, treat, transport and utilize the solid wastes  
c) Always balance land application of manure to the nutritional requirements of soil and crop  
d) Keep manure dry and avoid wet spots/patches  
e) Store manure properly by following appropriate storage technologies like composting  
f) Reduce mortalities on farm by proper animal care and disease prevention program  
g) Use reliable options for collection, storage, transport and disposal of dead birds  
h) Properly educate the effectiveness of pesticide and its potential environmental impacts before application  
i) Never use pesticide containers for any other use and should be properly disposed to an engineered land fill facility

ii. GAINFUL UTILIZATION AND RECOVERY OF WASTES

a) The products from the rendering plant can be used as pet food  
b) The pet food also can be made by extrusion of hatchery waste with soya bean meal

CONCLUSION

Poultry sector has moved a long way coming to a position of creating employment opportunities close to 5 Lakh families in the state of Karnataka. In addition, it is also creating alternative source of income to the agricultural farmers of the state throughout the year and financially impacting the agricultural sector of the state. The sector is also creating induced and allied businesses and jobs. With this the sector is not only improving socio-economic status in rural Karnataka but also in urban areas.

KPFBA herewith submits the above set of recommendations to the Government of Karnataka to consider implementing in the proposed guidelines on poultry sector in the state. This will boost the rural economy and also create employment opportunities to an additional 10 million population in the next 10 years to come.