Source : Business Standard Date : 08.06.2009

Government lifts ban on poultry trade in east Nepal

Press Trust of India / Kathmandu June 8, 2009, 12:48 IST

Government has lifted over three month-long ban on manufacturing and trading of poultry products in Mechi Municipality of eastern Nepal, bordering India, where the first case of bird flu was detected, officials said.

A cabinet meeting on Friday took the decision after two surveillance teams, comprising experts and technicians, found no sign of the avian influenza within the radius of 10 kilometres of the Mechi customs office — the central point of bird flu.

"Now ban on trading of the poultry product within the country has been lifted," said Hari Dahal, spokesperson of the Ministry of Agriculture.

He, however, said that the ban on import of poultry products from India has not been lifted.

The ban imposed on import of chicken and other poultry products from India will remain effective as precautionary measures, he said.

The authorities had culled around 2,500 birds and destroyed thousands of eggs in the municipality after the first bird flu was detected in mid-January.