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Government of India
Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying
Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

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Please refer to your email dated Feb 10, 2020 seeking clarification on the issue of livestock product consumption vis a vis 2019-novel corona virus (2019-nCoV). In this context, this is to clarify that predominant route of transmission of 2019-nCoV appears to be human to human as per OIE, though 2019-nCoV may have had an animal source, which requires further investigation. Poultry has not been found to be involved in transmission of 2019-nCoV to human so far in any report globally. Similar viral outbreaks of corona virus in the past (SARS 2002-03, MERS 2012-13) or Corona associated common cold had no involvement of poultry or poultry products world over.

Thus, with present knowledge of affairs of 2019-nCoV, consumption of poultry and poultry products may be considered safe. General principles of hygiene, however, may be followed as per suggestions of WHO/OIE.

Yours sincerely,

(Praveen Malik)

CHICKEN CONSUMPTION IS SAFE. CONFIRMS GOVT OF INDIA.