

PRESS RELEASE

H.E. Mr. Suresh K. GOEL, Ambassador of India to Lao PDR, today handed over a cheque of US \$ 100,000/- to H.E. Mr. Khamhoung HEUANGVONGSY, Vice Minister of Health, at the Ministry of Health, Government of Lao PDR. The amount is a grant from Government of India for assisting Lao PDR in its efforts for combating avian and human influenza. Government of Lao PDR proposes to use this grant for purchasing medical health equipment including ventilators for hospitals in Vientiane.

Avian and human influenza is a major health concern which impacts adversely on the national socio-economic development objectives and retard economic growth. Government of India appreciates the efforts being made by Lao PDR for combating avian and human influenza through its Action Plan which has both long term and short term strategies including spreading of awareness about the disease, facilities for testing and treatment, and response and monitoring in cases of outbreak.

Government of India hopes that this small contribution will assist the Government of Lao PDR in implementation of the Action Plan.

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