

# 'Get breeders to vaccinate chickens'

**PREVENTIVE STEP:** Vaccination can stem Newcastle Disease, says expert

**ROSHIDI ABU SAMAH**

IPOH

news@nst.com.my

**T**HE Newcastle Disease (ND) or *sam-par ayam* could be a thing of the past if the government makes it compulsory for all commercial poultry breeders to vaccinate their chickens, ND expert Dr Choi Kang-Seuk said yesterday.

Dr Choi of the World Organisation for Animal Health said South Korea had recorded zero ND cases since 2010 after the mandatory vaccination requirement was introduced.

"The South Korean government introduced a policy which required commercial poultry farmers to vaccinate all their chickens and penalty was imposed on those who failed to adhere to the regulation.

"The policy managed to control the outbreak of ND cases in my country and for the last two years, there have been no cases at all," he said in his working paper at the "Solution To Current

Newcastle Disease in Malaysia" seminar at the Veterinary Research Institute here.

"The disease in Malaysia can be eliminated if such a policy is introduced," he said.

Dr Choi, however, noted that efforts to contain the disease in Malaysia was likely to be difficult when it involved free range chickens or *ayam kampung*.

He said in South Korea, most of the chickens were reared at commercial farms, making it easier for vaccination to be carried out.

Meanwhile, Veterinary Research Institute (VRI) director Dr Ramlan Mohamed said vaccination was the only effective method to control the disease in Malaysia.

He, however, said it was uncertain whether vaccination procedures carried out at laboratories were strictly followed by employees at commercial farms.

"We have received much feedback that workers at the farms who carry out vaccination are uneducated or foreigners."

**"The disease in Malaysia can be eliminated if such a policy is introduced."**

**Dr Choi Kang-Seuk**  
World Organisation  
for Animal Health  
official