

Chick prices jump

The President, Control Shed Farmers Association, Amir Razzaq, has demanded of the government to take immediate notice of phenomenal increase in the price of Day Old chick (DOC) due to which the poultry farmers as well as public, are facing a crisis-like situation. Mr Amir Razzaq, who was heading a delegation of poultry farmers was talking to LCCI President Zafar Iqbal Chaudhry here at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Monday. The President, Control Shed Farmers Association said that about a year ago the price of day old chicken varied between Rs. 6 to 25/=, while the farm rate of chicken (live bird) ranged between Rs. 70 to 80. He said that in the last 4-5 months, the broiler breeders have increased price of day old chick, which has been steadily and deliberately raised to the current price of Rs. 84 per day old chick. Amir Razzaq said that average selling price of DOC should be around Rs. 25, which includes 25% profit for the breeder. But the price has been jacked up to Rs. 84.

This is very unfair, not only to the farmers but also the consumers. He said that there is no justification for this sudden jump in price of DOC. Input costs including feed, have remained fairly constant in the last six months. He said that the price of DOC is bound to affect the price of chicken meat in the market which has jumped from Rs. 135 per kg to the current level of Rs.210. This constitutes a big burden on the average consumer, who is already reeling under the pressure of increased prices of daily necessities, such as sugar, atta, ghee etc. The LCCI President Zafar Iqbal Chaudhry listen the issue patiently and assured them that he would take up this issue with all stakeholders and concerned government circles soon.