

Drama – ‘Cock-a-doodle-doo’

Scene-1: The introductory Chicken Dance

[One actor will hop towards the center of the stage like a rooster. Then raise his shoulder and crows]

Rooster: cock-a-doodle-doo

[With his crow, chickens and roosters will rush in from different sides]

Song:

Cock-a-doodle-doo

Cock-a-doodle-doo

Everybody wake, as the dawn break

Everybody wake

[chickens and roosters will go to one side of the stage and the ducks will enter from another side]

No more quack quack

Quack quack quack quack

Watch the ducks swim to and back

Chicken: Hey rooster, why are you so beautiful?

Rooster 1: It's a beauty secret but.....do you want to know why? Actually because the poultry coop where I live in is clean and beautiful and they take care of me so much....that's why I'm beautiful too.

Rooster 2: Huh, do you think you are the only one who lives in a good farm.....we also live in a good and happy farm. Our masters also take good care of us.

Chicken: Okay, okay, okay, stop arguing, let's sing and have fun as we were doing.....

[chickens and ducks will dance in the same stage in two different groups. This will separate the two groups yet justify that they both are the poultry we are talking about in the following song]

Song:

We are the poultry of this country... this country provides us

Red blue white black, in color numerous.

Farm-raised stay in the farms

Free-range can go out of barns.

We live healthy and have fun

We are the poultry of this country... this country provides us.

Chicken: But the thing is, not every poultry owner is as informed/ intelligent as ours. I heard some farms are so unclean and they do not take any cautionary. Healthy and sick chickens live together and this unsafe practices has make the poultry infected by bird flu

[A Vet and Farmer stand and talk together]

Farmer: Hello Doctor....Good to see you....I am hearing much about this disease – bird flu’ – what is it?

Veterinary doctor: Hello, (name) Bird flu is a concern here in Bangladesh especially among farmers and people working closely with poultry....Just some cautionary actions can keep you and your home safe...the virus is spread in poultry droppings, saliva and mucous.

Farmer: ...So I need to sweep and clean my yard and wash the cages, my clothes, and hands with soap and water.

Vet: Exactly....and people who come in direct contact with poultry – farmers, transporters, market vendors -- should take extra precautions in handling poultry....they should wear mask to cover their mouth and nose so they don't breathe poultry droppings...and washing their hands after touching poultry.

Farmer: all it takes is a few safety measures to keep us and our community safe

Vet: Yes, just cautionary actions – like cleaning and soap and water -- will help keep you and your poultry safe. And don't forget to keep the chickens and ducks in separate cages.

.....Remember, just some cautionary.....

[chickens and ducks will sing and dance in two groups like before]

Song:

Just some cautionary and

You can stay safe from getting infected or

Bird flu spreading among the birds

Cock-a-doodle-doo

Scene 2: Picnic

[Some boys from the village are playing a popular game with Dhala uncle.]

Boy 1: Blind bee zee zee, catch who you can

Boy 2: if you see..

Girl: You couldn't catch me Dhala uncle....I've fooled you.

everyone: Blind bee zee zee, catch whom you can if you see

Dhala: I'm too tired now.....won't play anymore.

Boy 1: Let's arrange a picnic

Dhala: Hmm, not a bad idea...

Boy 2: I can bring rice from my mother

Boy 1: then I'll bring pulses from my mother

Girl: I'll bring onion and chilies.....and the spices required

Boy 1: But who will bring the meat?

Girl: Dhala uncle, you have to bring a chicken...okay?

Dhala: How can bring chicken.....do I have money....do I have a farm?

Boy 1: Picnic without meat won't be fun at all.....should we drop the idea?

Dhala: One thing can be done....I can bring a chicken from my uncle, he has a big chicken farm. But it's in the neighboring village.....

Boy 2: So what....let's go there

[Everyone start for Dhala's uncles house]

Scene 3: Dhala's uncle's house

Dhala: Uncle...uncle

Uncle: Hey....so you remember your uncle....come inside

Dhala: Uncle, my friends and I are planning a picnic....

Uncle: So?

Dhala: You have to give us a chicken

Uncle: Okay, but listen...to catch a chicken we have to take some preparations. You've heard about bird flu – the way it is spread is through bird droppings. To protect yourself you have to cover your mouth and nose....Because I have a large farm I have masks and gloves and clean the farm daily to remove the droppings...and the man who cleans these, washes his hands with soap and water properly. When you are home you see your mother and father use cloth to cover their nose and mouth. And remember, it is very important to wash hands with soap and water after handling the poultry.

Hey...who is available there in my farm, get ready with our mask, gloves and apron.....give my nephew a chicken.

Dhala:We heard something about bird flu from the vet.

Boy 1: Yes uncle, your farm is so clean and well-maintained

Uncle: Ya boy, I maintain my farm to stay safe from bird flu as the vet told me and taught me

Dhala: Uncle, I want to catch the chicken too

Uncle: No, you can just go to the farm area wearing proper protection.....my man will catch the chicken and give it to you. And children, you are not allowed there. Dhala, wear the gloves and mask and go there to choose one.....just one okay?

Dhala: I'll take a red one...

Uncle: my man will slaughter and prepare the chicken for you. Dhala, you'll carry the chicken to cook okay?

Dhala: Uncle, we'll send it to Moyna's (singer's daughter) house to cook.....we'll just cook the khichuri....I've heard that Moyna's mother knows how to handle poultry properly.

Girl: let's go to singer uncle's house

Dhala: Okay, I'll give it to Moyna for cooking and you people arrange the other foods...I'll join you later on.....I'll just roam around the bazaar for a while.

All: let's go.

Scene 4: Market place (Bazaar)

[Ambience of a market place where chickens, ducks and eggs are being sold. Some transporters are also there ...having tea etc.]

(Target Audience: Poultry and Egg Transporters)

Veterinary Doctor: Singer uncle, it's good that you've come here.....and the other people are here too.....

Singer: Doctor, I've heard that you are telling something to everyone?

Doctor: Yes uncle, I was talking about 'bird flu'we have all heard about the disease, haven't we?

Singer: Ya, I heard that some of our poultry have been affected by it

Vet: That's why I was telling everyone about what they can do to stay safe...it includes covering your mouth and nose with either a mask or cloth so you don't breath in poultry droppings and mucous. You should also keep cages, tires, and vehicles clean....wash them with soap and water...and wash your hands with soap and water after touching poultry. If you follow these basic practices you will reduce the virus spreading.

Singer: Listen doctor, you are an educated man but we do not understand everything so well, it's better if you can explain us everything.

[Assistants will rise to the stage very dramatically with large banner. The doctor will explain the whole thing to everyone. The doctor will convey the information about precautions on transporting chicken through discussions. (Messages from the targeted flyer will be shared by a adopted designed big banner. Ref – attached banner 01)]

Transporter: I've heard this from the vet before and I always keep my pick-up van clean as the vet instructed. I also clean the cages where the poultry is held....and I wear a mask over my nose and mouth...and wash my hands with soap and water.

Lalchan: But other transporters should also follow thisI'm sure some are already following

Transporter: I also clean the wheels with washing soda.....go and see my van if you want.

Vet: And remember, you should keep the chickens and ducks in separate cages.

Transporter: Yes doctor, I do that too.

Singer: Wait, wait. All these talks have made me write a song; let me sing it to you:

Thin are the mango leaves
Written on the jackfruit leaves
Wash the chicken cart
With soap and washing soda
With washing soda
With Soap

[Co-singers will dance and act as if washing the cart with their hands along with the song]

Vet: Well... that was a brilliant song you made.

Dhala: You are right, doctor.

Lalchan: Our singer uncle is an expert. His instant songs are so good...

Singer: Okay, okay.....stop.....I've come up with another song.....

[Singer sings:]

Wake up my farmer brothers, time to rise

This poor singer calls you, open your eyes.

Lalchan: our singer uncle's singing is so appealing. Now we know what the issue is about.....it's about how to stay safe and cautious.

(Target Audience: Poultry and Egg Vendors)

Vet: Buy only the healthy and active chickens. And my dear seller brothers, please sell only healthy chickens, ducks and clean eggs. And take proper protection.

[Assistants will rise to the stage very dramatically with large banners and flip charts. The doctor will show the messages for the poultry and egg-vendors. The messages to be shown here: The droppings and wastes of the poultry not to be disposed anywhere; it will be shown that hole is dug and these are buried, or these are burnt. Dresses are changed; hand is washed properly with soap and water. Changing clothes and shoes before returning home will also be shown. (Ref – attached banner 02)]

Singer: (Sings)

When your chickens start to doze

Get the doctor who is close

Lalchan: I won't forget it.

Chicken seller: Look at me, I've covered my mouth and hands.....

Vet: uncle, we have to spread this message everywhere.

Singer: Doctor, I have a question. I also buy chickens from the bazaar. How do I protect myself during this trade?

Vet: Wash your hands with soap and washing soda before and after handling the chickens.

You have to raise your poultry more carefully. The moment you see one chicken dozing, immediately call a doctor.

Vet: And be careful not to come into contact of the droppings and drools of the chicken. That is why you need to wear gloves and cover your nose. Wear an apron if you can, that is safer.

Singer: I have come up with another song. Let me sing you:

When you select chickens there, do take care
Wear gloves on both the hands, don't keep it bare
Bird-flu won't dare, come anywhere near
No one else would have to die, only if you hear.

(Target Audience: Poultry and Egg Vendors and consumers)

Moyna: Well, that is some knowledge...

Rasik: Now let me try to come up with a song

Singer: Go ahead otherwise you won't succeed as my assistant.

Rasik:

How you live is how you eat, wise men say
Rotten food, stale food might take your life away.
Either you are a businessman, or anyone else
No need to trade or eat, chicken with disease.

Singer: Good, you have become a good singer...

Mayna: Father, you have to be careful.

(Target Audience: Slaughters at home and restaurant)

Doctor: Tell me dear Moyna, what are the things that needs to be done while handling chicken?

Moyna: You have to wash the knives and other tools properly after slaughtering. And you need to do it a bit away from the house.

Lalchan: Doctor, did you think our Moyna is not intelligent?

Rasik: She is very intelligent.....Moyna, tell the vet that you should also bury or burn the blood and feathers. after slaughter.. And wash your hands after completing these.

Moyna: Yes, my mother and I always follow these.

Vet: It's really nice to know. Let me explain it to everyone

[Doctor will give demonstrations on chopping chicken-meat using large banner and convey the main messages. Ref – attached banner 3.]

Singer: I'm having difficulty to come up with this song. I need help from someone:

Singer:

Before you chop meat of chicken, duck or bird

Piece of advice; let me make myself heard...

Take it away, from your house, before you start to chop

O take it away...

Co-singers: (sound of slicing with a sharp tool)

Clean it well, meat and eggs, don't forget the stool

O and boil it to the full...

Co-singers: (sound of slicing with a sharp tool)

[The others will dance as the singer sings. The instructions in the song will be choreographed through the dance of the Co-singers]

Doctor: Wow.

Singer: But I still cannot phrase the last verse.

Moyna: Father, you have gotten into the flow. This time I will also join you at the stage.

Singer: Alright. But what about the last part?

Rasiklal: You will have to give me a healthy chicken, and then I will sing you the next part...

After you do all the meat-slicing and dicing

Give your tools a good soap-cleansing

O do all the washing...

Singer:

Let me tell you one last thing

Wash your hands after all the chopping

With a good soap with proper cleansing

Co-singers: (sound of slicing with a sharp tool)

[The co-singers will show washing a cart during singing]

Singer: Ah! I am so happy!

Person 1: Now that everyone is happy and well-informed....let's talk about our drama for the festival to mark the end of spring?

Person 2: Singer uncle, will you now compose the song for that festival?

Singer: I'm phrasing new verses and everyone sing with me

Cock-a-doodle-doo

Cock-a-doodle-doo

Everybody wake, as the dawn break

Everybody wake

Cock-a-doodle-doo

Cock-a-doodle-doo

take proper safety measures

stay safe from bird flu