

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1175
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH DECEMBER, 2025

ANTIBIOTIC USE AND RESIDUE MONITORING IN ANIMAL FARMING

1175 SMT. SUDHA MURTY:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
be pleased to State:

- (a) the regulations presently in place governing the use of antibiotics and growth promoters in the livestock sector, including aquaculture, poultry, dairy and piggeries;
- (b) the measures adopted by Government to monitor antibiotic residues in products derived from these animal sectors; and
- (c) the steps being taken to address and prevent the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in animal farming environments

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & DAIRYING
(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)**

- (a) The import, manufacture and distribution of drugs including antibiotics are regulated as per the provisions under Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules there under to ensure safety and quality standards. Further, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India has constituted the Empowered Committee on Animal Health-Regulatory (ECAH), a subcommittee to 'Assess and provide recommendations on submission of veterinary vaccines/biological/drugs for policy input' to Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) regarding import and manufacturing of drugs and vaccine including antibiotics.
- (b) The measures adopted by Government to monitor antibiotic residues in products derived from these animal sectors are outlined as below:
 - i. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) monitors Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) prevalence in fish and livestock through a network of 31 centres in the country. ICAR institutes also screens the random samples of animal products periodically for common antibiotic residues in collaboration with regional food safety laboratories to ensure compliance with Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) and Minimum Required Performance Limits (MRPLs).
 - ii. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has notified Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011, wherein tolerance limits of antimicrobials including prohibition of other veterinary drugs in the production of livestock and aquaculture product are prescribed.

iii. National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) promotes research in fisheries to ensure quality and productivity.

(c) The steps being taken to address and prevent the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in animal farming environments are as under:

- I. National Action Plan on Anti-Microbial Resistance (NAP-AMR) is in place focusing on optimal use of antimicrobials, awareness and training, surveillance and monitoring etc.
- II. The 'Standard Veterinary Treatment Guidelines (SVTGs) has been developed for Livestock and Poultry' for best practices in veterinary care to enhance livestock health and disease control while ensuring the responsible use of drugs including antimicrobials.
- III. Under Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme (LHDCP) scheme financial assistance is provided to States/UTs for training and awareness on Good Animal Husbandry Practices, Biosecurity/Sanitary measures, vaccination against animal diseases, disease surveillance and monitoring and capacity building which supports less usage of antibiotics.
- IV. Bharat Pashudhan application under National Digital Livestock Mission provides management of common ailments of dairy animals e.g. mastitis, indigestion, diarrhoea etc. using Ethno-Veterinary Medicine (EVM).
- V. Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India has issued advisories to all States/UTs for judicious use of antibiotics in treatment of food producing animals, for stopping use of antibiotics in animal feed and for general awareness.
- VI. Extension programs (KVKs, Tribal Sub-Plan) are conducted by ICAR to educate farmers on responsible antibiotic use, personal hygiene, and the risks of using antibiotics as growth promoters.
- VII. The Central Aquaculture Authority (CAA) regulates the hatcheries and farming of shrimp and issue certificates of compliance to aquaculture inputs as free from adulterants and contaminants.
