

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1972
ANSWERED ON 05TH AUGUST 2026

**MILK PRODUCTIVITY, FODDER DEFICIT AND MEASURES TO ENHANCE
DAIRY PRODUCTION**

1972. SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM:

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

- (a) the reasons why India's milk yield per animal remains nearly half the global average;
- (b) the nationwide shortfall in green fodder, dry crop residues and concentrate feed, and the steps taken to bridge the gap;
- (c) whether the impact of heatwaves on milk productivity has been assessed, if so, the findings and mitigation measures taken;
- (d) State-wise/UT-wise funds allocated and utilised for hydroponic fodder promotion and digital livestock advisory during the last five years; and
- (e) whether Government proposes coordinated action with ICAR, States and industry to address the persistent productivity gap, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (e) The average productivity of cattle and buffaloes in the country has increased to 2,251 kg per bovine per year in 2024-25 as compared to 1,648 kg per bovine per year in 2014-15. As per FAOSTAT 2024, the average world milk productivity is 2,551 kg per bovine per year. Milk production in the country has increased by 70%, from 146 Million Metric Tonnes in 2014-15 to 248 Million Metric Tonnes in 2024-25, with an average annual growth rate of 6.3%, which is significantly higher than the global average growth rate of around 2%.

For the holistic development of livestock sector, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) is implementing various programmes in consultation with Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR), State Governments and related industries. Continuous discussions are made with all stakeholders for prevention and control of animal diseases, breed improvement including genomic selection, fodder production etc.

(b) As per the assessment made in 2019 by Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) -Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute (IGFRI), Jhansi, the country faces estimated

deficits of 11.24% in green fodder, 23.4% in dry fodder, and 28.9% in concentrate feed ingredients. To supplement the efforts of State Governments towards self-sufficiency in fodder, the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying provides support through the following interventions:

- (i) Under National Livestock Mission (NLM), assistance is provided for quality fodder seeds production including Breeder, Foundation, and Certified seeds. During last five years, an amount of Rs. 1,152.40 crores have been released and 1.6 lakh tonnes of quality fodder seed produced. Further, under NLM-Entrepreneurship Development Programme (NLM-EDP), 50% subsidy (up to Rs. 50 lakhs) is offered for establishing infrastructure like Hay/Silage/Total Mixed Ration (TMR) blocks and setting up processing/grading units. Under this, 204 projects have been approved with a project cost of Rs.201.02 crores and approved subsidy of Rs.86.65 crores.
 - (ii) Under Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF), incentives are provided for investments by individual entrepreneurs, private companies, MSME, Farmers Producers Organizations (FPOs), Section 8 companies and Dairy Cooperatives to establish various infrastructure activities including animal feed plants through 3% interest subvention. A total of 174 Animal Feed Plants have been approved with a capacity of 144.09 Lakh MT per year with an investment of Rs. 3,602.47 crores.
 - (iii) 100 dedicated Fodder-Plus Farmer Producer Organisations have been established by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) across the country to boost local production and supply.
 - (iv) DAHD has instructed all the States and Union Territories to establish a State Fodder Task Force to monitor availability, increase fodder cultivation area and ensure convergence with other schemes such as Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar & Aajeevika Mission (Gramin).
 - (v) ICAR-IGFRI, in collaboration with All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Forage Crops, is strengthening national fodder production by establishing over 70 year-round forage gardens across State Agriculture Universities (SAU), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), and Non Government Organisations (NGOs) that have trained over 10 lakh farmers and stakeholders, developing 112 high-yielding varieties across 19 crops over the last decade, and formulating area-specific fodder strategies for 29 States. ICAR-IGFRI has developed state-specific fodder development plans for 28 States and one Union Territory and out of these 15 States have fully adopted the fodder development plans for implementation.
- (c) No specific information is available with the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying. However, in order to supplement the efforts of the States and Union Territories to build resilience against climate change and safeguard the livelihood of dairy farmers, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing Rashtriya Gokul Mission for development and conservation of indigenous breeds, genetic upgradation of bovine population and enhancement of milk production and productivity of bovines. Indigenous cattle are well known for their quality of heat tolerance, disease resistance and ability to withstand extreme

climatic conditions and least affected by future climate warming. Government has also formulated and issued heat wave management guidelines to all the states and UTs and to National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) for necessary field level preparedness.

(d) The Government of India does not allocate budget exclusively for hydroponic fodder promotion. However, financial assistance for hydroponic fodder systems is made available under the framework of broader umbrella agricultural schemes, primarily the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) and the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF).

Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India has developed 1962 Farmers App under Bharat Pashudhan in collaboration with National Dairy Development Board that provides advisory services on Ration balancing and educates farmers on optimizing animal feeding using locally available resources, ensuring a balanced intake of protein, energy, and minerals. The Ration Balancing functionality is also extended to field workers for assisting the farmers in adopting scientific ways to arrive put at optimal Ration Balancing in terms of cost and productivity.
