

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

ADMITTED QUESTION NO. 1980
ANSWERED ON 5TH AUGUST, 2026

STRENGTHENING THE NLM AND FODDER RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY

1980. **DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE:**

SHRI RAJINDER GUPTA:

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

- (a) the specific interventions implemented under the National Livestock Mission (NLM) to incentivise entrepreneurship in the poultry, small ruminant, porcine and animal feed sectors;
- (b) the strategic framework adopted to mitigate the deficit in green fodder availability through the advancement of fodder seed production and pasture land restoration;
- (c) whether specialised models for genetic breed-improvement and rural backyard entrepreneurship are being facilitated for landless and marginal livestock farmers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the manner in which the livestock sector is being developed as a source of supplementary income and rural employment?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The Entrepreneurship Development Programme under the National Livestock Mission (NLM-EDP) provides 50% capital subsidy up to ₹50.00 lakh to individuals, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Self-Help Groups (SHGs), Joint Liability Groups (JLGs), Farmer Cooperative Organizations (FCOs) and Section 8 companies for establishment of rural poultry breeding farms, sheep, goat, pig, camel, horse, donkey breeding farms, as well as feed and fodder units like Silage and Total Mixed Ration (TMR) units.
- (b) To address deficit in green fodder availability, the Government of India is implementing National Livestock Mission (NLM). The Sub-Mission of Feed and Fodder Development focuses enhancing production of quality fodder seed and its supply chain. This will ensure the availability of quality breeder, foundation and certified fodder seeds essential for fodder production. 100% financial assistance is provided to various Central and State level seed producing agencies to produce quality fodder seed.

50% capital subsidy up to ₹ 50 lakh is provided to Individuals, FPOs, FCOs, SHG, JLGs and Section 8 companies for the establishment of fodder block, hay baling and silage making units. Further, assistance is provided to the State and Union Territory Governments for fodder production in forest and non-forest and degraded land. State Level Fodder Task Forces have been constituted to assess fodder availability, identify region-specific gaps, prepare fodder development action plans and coordination amongst the various Departments of State and Union Territory Governments. Silvi pasture grassland development activity has been incorporated by the Rural Development Department as an eligible activity under Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission Gramin (VB-G RAM G) to increase the production of fodder.

(c) and (d) Breed multiplication farms established under the Entrepreneurship Development Programme under the National Livestock Mission are the specialized model farms that promote scientific farming instead of traditional system. Genetic breed improvement programmes for sheep, goat, pig, camel, horse and donkey are in place for which assistance is provided for establishment of semen station for goat and sheep, semen bank and propagation of Artificial Insemination of goat through cattle and buffalo semen centre. Assistance is provided under the Dharti Aaba- Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DA-JUGA), for small goat, sheep, poultry and pig unit to the Forest Rights Act (FRA) Patta holders in the tribal areas.

(e) Livestock provides regular cash flow throughout the year and reduces the risks associated with climate variability. Livestock sector complements agriculture by generating income from milk, eggs, meat, wool, hides, and manure. It provides daily or periodic cash income, helping households meet routine expenses. The sector contributes around 30% of agricultural Gross Value Added (GVA) and continues to grow faster than the crop sector. The sector provides year-round employment. Employment opportunities exist in dairy farming, poultry production, goat and sheep rearing, pig farming, feed manufacturing, veterinary services and milk collection, processing, transportation and marketing. It creates both direct and indirect employment in rural areas.

The livestock sector in India has emerged as one of the most important sources of supplementary income, rural employment, and livelihood security, particularly for small and marginal farmers, landless labourers, and women through implementation of several flagship programmes by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India such as Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM), National Livestock Mission (NLM), Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF), National Programme for Dairy Development Programme (NPDD) and Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme (LHDCP).
