

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 884**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023

**CONSERVATION AND PROMOTION OF INDIGENOUS BREED OF COWS**

884. DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK":

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether any schemes for the conservation and promotion of the indigenous breed of cows is under implementation by the Government/Agricultural Universities/Research Institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any special scheme has been implemented for the conservation and promotion of cows of Himalayan region and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

**(a) to (c):** Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying implements Rashtriya Gokul Mission for development and conservation of indigenous bovine breeds and genetic upgradation of bovine population since December 2014. All indigenous breeds of cattle including breeds of Himalayan region are covered under the scheme.

Further, in order to conserve and propagate the indigenous cattle breeds of the country, Indian Council of Agricultural Research- Central Institute for Research on Cattle, Meerut implements the Indigenous Breeds Project (IBP) under the All India Co-Ordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Cattle. Under this project, the genetic improvement of three important indigenous cattle breeds of the country viz., Gir, Kankrej and Sahiwal is undertaken in collaboration with different State Agricultural / Veterinary Universities, other ICAR institutes, NGOs and Gaushalas.

ICAR-National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources conserves indigenous breeds of cows through cryopreserving the germplasm in its National Gene Bank. Presently, the germplasm of 29 indigenous cattle breeds in form of semen and six breeds in form of somatic cells have been cryopreserved.

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