ASSISTANCE FOR CONTROL OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

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

(a) whether it is true that the central share of Kerala under Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD) for the control of African Swine Fever (ASF) is still pending even after repeated reminders, if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(b) whether the Government has taken note of the demand by the State of Kerala to include Cattle Rearing as a component of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide loans with low interest rate of four to five percent per annum to dairy farmers as applicable for the agriculture sector, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposes to extend cattle feed subsidy for cultivation of grass on barren land as demanded by the State of Kerala; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) to (e) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.
a). No Sir. No Central Share of Kerala under Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD) for the control of African Swine Fever (ASF) is pending with the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Government of India. During the year 2023-24, Action Plan of Rs.1129.58 Lakh including amount of Rs.265.48 Lakh for compensation for African Swine Fever (ASF) has been approved for Kerala under "Assistance to State for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD)" a component of Livestock Health & Disease Control (LH&DC) Scheme and sanction was issued on 30th November, 2023. Funds could not be released to the state due to unspent balance. Rs. 282.39 lakh has been released under ASCAD including funds for ASF during January, 2024.

b). Does not pertains to the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying.

c) Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) is implementing the scheme “Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) under Prime Minister’s Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan stimulus package and is incentivizing investments by individual entrepreneurs, private companies, Farmers Producers Organizations (FPOs), MSMEs, Section 8 Companies and Cooperatives to establish dairy processing and value addition infrastructure, meat processing and value addition infrastructure, animal feed plant, breed improvement technology and breed multiplication farm, setting up of veterinary vaccine and drugs production facilities and animal waste to wealth Management (Agri waste Management). Loan up to 90% of the estimated/actual project cost and Interest subvention of 3% for all eligible entities are the benefits. The credit can under the revised be availed from Scheduled Banks, NDDB, NABARD and NCDC.

Further, DAHD under the scheme “Supporting State Dairy Cooperatives and Farmer Producer Organizations” (SDC&FPO) is providing 2% interest subvention on working capital loan to Dairy cooperatives and Milk Producers’ Companies and additional 2% interest subvention for prompt payment. Under National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD) the beneficiaries are also supported to increase sales of milk and milk products, upgrading dairy processing facilities, marketing infrastructure and enhancing the capacity of producer-owned institutions.

Further, DAHD is also implementing Breed Multiplication Farm component to attract entrepreneurship for the dairy sector, and to simultaneously create the opportunity for developing a hub and spoke model of dairy farming where small and marginal dairy farmers can thrive with the help of a local hub of reliable dairy services. Subsidy of 50% (up to Rs 2 crores per farm) on capital cost (excluding land cost) is proposed to be provided to private entrepreneurs under this scheme for establishment of breed multiplication farms of minimum herd size of 200 heads of bovines in the country except for hilly states and north eastern states where the number is 50.

d) & e). No such proposal has been received from the state of Kerala in this regard. However, DAHD under component Dairy Processing Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF) provide support to the Dairy Cooperative for Cattle Feed/Feed supplement plant and cattle feed go-downs. Further, under Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) also provide support to individual entrepreneur for Animal Feed Plant. Also, under National Livestock Mission
(NLM), the scheme Entrepreneur Development Programme (EDP) aims towards employment
generation, entrepreneurship development by providing 50% capital subsidy for establishment of
fodder value addition unit.

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