

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING  
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING  
LOKSABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 329  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

**PRESERVATION OF SIRI COW BREED**

329. SHRI RAJU BISTA:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps towards genetic improvement and preservation of Siri Cow breed, cattle breed of hilly region of the States of West Bengal and Sikkim;
- (b) whether the Government provides loan at lower rates of interest or without interest to promote dairy and animal husbandry;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the criteria fixed for availing financial assistance; and
- (d) the details of steps taken by the Government to increase credit flow the promotion of dairy and animal husbandry?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) Yes Sir, the Department has been implementing Rashtriya Gokul Mission since 2014 with focus on development and conservation of indigenous bovine breeds including Siri breed of cattle from Sikkim and Siliguri of West Bengal. Following are the specific efforts made for development and conservation of Siri breed of cattle: (i) four pockets in each district of Sikkim has been recognised as Intensive Siri Conservation Breeding Area (ISCBA) wherein Artificial Insemination as well as natural breeding is undertaken with semen of Siri breed of cattle and bulls for natural service.

2. Funds are released under Rashtriya Gokul Mission for induction of Siri bulls for natural service in the breeding tract of Siri breed of cattle. Bull keepers of Siri bulls are given grant of Rs.1000/ month for bull maintenance by the State Government of Sikkim.

3. Funds are released under Rashtriya Gokul Mission for undertaking Field Performance Recording in the breeding tract of Siri breed of cattle. Transport subsidy for transportation of milk produced from Siri cows has been made available by the State Government of Sikkim in-order to promote Siri cattle rearing.

4. Paschim Banga Gosampad Bikas Sanstha of West Bengal has inducted high genetic merit bulls of Siri breed of cattle at semen station for production of quality semen doses.

(b) to (d) The following schemes has been implemented by the Department to provide loans at lower rate of interest and to increase the credit flow for promoting animal husbandry and dairying in the country:

1. Entrepreneurship model has been developed for establishment of breed multiplication farms for making available high genetic merit heifers (HGM) to farmers to fulfil the need of general shortage of such animals. Under the component 50% of capital subsidy is being made available to interested entrepreneurs for construction of cattle sheds, equipment, procurement of elite animals etc. The entrepreneur will establish breed multiplication farm (BMF) and produce elite heifers using sex sorted semen or IVF technology.

2. Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) - Under this scheme any individual, FPO, private Companies, Section 8 companies, MSME can avail credit facility from any scheduled Bank for establishment of Dairy Processing and value addition infrastructure, Meat processing and value addition infrastructure, animal feed plant and breed improvement farms for cattle, sheep, goat, pig and poultry with updated technology. The scheme envisages 3% interest subvention to the beneficiaries availing credit under AHIDF. The Credit Guarantee up to 25% of the Credit is being provided for which the Central Government has established Credit Guarantee Fund Trust with Rs. 750 crore managed by NABARD. The Eligible Beneficiaries are entitled to avail up to 90% credit facility with no upper and lower limits.

3. National Livestock Mission: Under this scheme 50% subsidy has been made available for establishment of sheep and Goat breeder farms, breed development of Rural backyard poultry and for feed and fodder development under entrepreneurship model.

4. One time support in the form of Interest subvention on working capital loans has been introduced for the financial year 2020-21 under ongoing scheme Support to State Dairy Cooperative & Farmers Producers Organization scheme (SDCFPO).

5. Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF)- This scheme is being implemented with the objective of Creation/ strengthening of Milk Processing, Value addition & chilling facilities with total outlay of Rs. 11,184 crore. Under the scheme, NABARD raises the fund from market and disburse loan to National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)/ National Cooperative Development Cooperation (NCDC) which is then disbursed by NDDB /NCDC to end Borrowers . GoI provides 2.5% interest subvention to National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). Financial assistance under DIDF will be given to those who are making profit and is having positive net worth.

6. Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing National Programme for Dairy Development scheme since 2014-15 with the objective to create dairy infrastructure for procurement, processing and marketing of milk and milk products.

7. Kisan Credit Card (KCC) - Government has extended KCC facility to Animal Husbandry farmers and Fisheries farmers for their working capital requirements wherein farmers either individual or joint borrower, Joint Liability Groups or Self Help Groups including tenant farmers having owned/rented/leased sheds are eligible for getting benefits under the scheme.