

“Sustainable Livestock Farming Needs Adoption of Ayurveda-Backed Veterinary Practices” : Shri Naresh Pal Gangwar

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The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, organized a virtual awareness program on Ethno Veterinary Medicine (EVM) for livestock farmers. Held on 23rd September 2025 through the Common Service Centres (CSC) network, the program marked the 10th Ayurveda Day, celebrated this year on the theme “Ayurveda for People and Planet.” **Chaired by Shri Naresh Pal Gangwar, Secretary, DAHD, the programme brought together livestock farmers from over 2,000 CSC centres across 23 States/UTs, with participation of more than one lakh farmers.**



Speaking on the occasion, **Shri Naresh Pal Gangwar** emphasized upon the importance of integrating Ayurveda with modern veterinary practices to promote sustainable livestock health management. **Highlighting the growing challenge of antibiotic resistance, he underscored the role of Ethno Veterinary Medicine (EVM) as a cost-effective and eco-friendly alternative.** Shri Gangwar interacted with the farmers to understand their access to veterinary services and awareness about adoption of EVM for curing animal diseases. **Ms. Varsha Joshi, Additional Secretary, DAHD,** in her address, focused on the use of EVM in treating bovine mastitis. She highlighted its potential in combating antimicrobial resistance (AMR) by reducing dependence on synthetic antibiotics and promoting natural, traditional remedies. While stressing upon its economic benefits, she stated that adoption of traditional herbal treatments often lowers the risk of overusing antibiotics, which is a major driver of AMR. Ms. Joshi encouraged the farmers to adopt these practices for healthier livestock and a more resilient dairy sector.

The program is part of the 10th Ayurveda Day celebrations that calls for sustainable use of natural resources, conservation of medicinal plants and biodiversity and featured expert sessions on Ayurveda-based veterinary practices. It forms part of DAHD’s broader efforts to raise awareness on the sustainable use of EVM and to provide livestock farmers with affordable and effective solutions for disease management.

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