

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FOR DAIRY FARMERS

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The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), GOI is implementing two major infrastructure development schemes namely National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD) and the Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) to supplement State efforts in strengthening dairy infrastructure.

Under NPDD, assistance is provided for creation and strengthening of milk procurement, processing and chilling facilities, installation of quality milk testing equipment, and support to village-level Dairy Cooperative Societies for Bulk Milk Coolers (BMCs), including those operated using Solar Photovoltaic Systems (SPV) and Thermal Storage Systems (TSS); 52 solar-powered BMCs have been sanctioned.

Under AHIDF, financial assistance is available for establishing and modernising milk processing plants, chilling infrastructure, value-added dairy units, and renewable-energy/energy-efficiency systems, enabling dairy cooperatives, FPOs, SHGs and private entrepreneurs to upgrade infrastructure and address power and processing gaps. Three milk unions Barauni (Bihar), Banaskantha (Gujarat) and Ernakulam (Kerala) have been assisted for solar-powered dairy processing units.

(b) and (c) To promote technology adoption and improve productivity among small and marginal farmers, DAHD, GOI is implementing the Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM), which supports genetic upgradation and scientific cattle rearing practices. Key interventions of RGM scheme are as under:

- I. **Nationwide Artificial Insemination Programme:** 9.36 crore animals covered, 14.56 crore AIs performed, 5.62 crore farmers benefitted.
- II. **Sex sorted semen:** 128 lakh doses produced; cost reduced from ₹800 to Rs 250 per dose through indigenous technology; 40 lakh dose capacity created and 150 lakh dose capacity under establishment.
- III. **Accelerated Breed Improvement Programme:** Incentive up to 50% of cost of sex sorted semen on assured pregnancy.
- IV. **Multi-Purpose AI Technicians in Rural India (MAITRIs):** 39,810 trained technicians delivering doorstep AI services.
- V. **IVF Technology:** 24 IVF labs established; Rs 5,000 incentive per assured pregnancy.
- VI. **Progeny Testing & Pedigree Selection:** 4,288 high genetic merit bulls produced and supplied to semen stations.
- VII. **Strengthening of Semen Stations:** 47 stations sanctioned.
- VIII. **Farmer Awareness:** Fertility camps, calf rallies, training programmes, and workshops conducted nationwide.

Above interventions enhance access to modern breeding technologies, improve productivity, and support income growth for small and marginal dairy farmers.

The above answer was given by Shri Rajeev Ranjan Singh alias Lallan Singh, Minister of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India, in response to a question asked in the Lok Sabha.

JP

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