

Tomar to reviews progress on database of eligible farmers for PM-KISAN, other schemes



Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar, reviewed the work on the database being created for quick identification of eligible farmers for the PM-KISAN and other schemes.

Tomar, in a virtual meeting with state agriculture ministers, asked states to complete the work of data verification and update at the earliest so that no eligible farmer is deprived of the benefits of the schemes.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme, a financial benefit of Rs 6,000 per year is provided to eligible farmer families, payable in three equal instalments of Rs 2000.

Since its launch in February 2019, 11 instalments have been disbursed under the PM-KISAN. More than Rs 2 lakh crore has been transferred to about 11.37 crore eligible farmers through this scheme. The benefit of PM-KISAN is given only to farmers with land holdings.

Panel set up to draft National Cooperative Policy document



Union home and cooperation minister Amit Shah has set up a national-level committee for drafting a national cooperation policy document.

The Union Cooperative Ministry said the 47-member committee will be headed by former Union minister Suresh Prabhu.

“The Committee comprises experts of the cooperative sector; representatives of National / State / District & Primary Cooperative Societies; Secretaries (Cooperation) & Registrars of Cooperative Societies of States / UTs; and Officers from Central Ministries / Departments,” the ministry said in a statement.

“Today, India has around 8.5 lakh co-operative societies with a member base of around 29 crores, spread across the length and breadth of the country. The new National Cooperation Policy document is being formulated with a vision of ‘Sahakar se Samridhi’”, said a statement.

PM Modi to Inaugurate World Dairy Summit in Greater Noida on Sept 12



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday will inaugurate ‘IDF World Dairy Summit 2022’ at Greater Noida wherein more than 1,500 delegates from 50 countries are scheduled to participate.

This was announced by Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying Parshottam Rupala at a press conference.

Chief Ministers of Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat too would be joining the global event being held in India after 48 years. Last time India hosted the International Dairy Congress in 1974.

Theme of the event beginning September 12 is ‘Dairy for Nutrition and Livelihood’. The dairy summit is a congregation of global and Indian dairy industry leaders, experts, farmers, and policy planners.

Andhra govt to launch desi cow milk products under 'Andhra Gopushti' banner

The State government is set to launch desi cow milk-based products under the banner 'Andhra Gopushti' to promote the growth of indigenous cow breeds as well as organic milk products across Andhra Pradesh.



The first special stall for these products would be set up at Vijayawada in the third week of September. Elaborating on the need for promoting organic milk products, Animal Husbandry Department Director Dr R Amarendra Kumar said, "We are aiming to cater to a niche market under the brand name, Andhra Gopushti. The organic products will be made of A2 milk produced by indigenous cow breeds. They can be classified as premium and hence, they will be priced accordingly."

He added that demand for such products is higher in cities than in rural areas. Stating that the primary objective is to promote the growth of indigenous cow breeds like Ongole, Punganoor, Gir, Deoni, Rathi among others, Kumar explained, "In the first phase, we established 58 desi cow farms six months ago. In the second phase, 28 more such farms will be set up. Each of the 26 districts will have three to five units, run by the farmers who are part of the Andhra Gopushti Farmer Producer Organisation under the Companies Act."

The cost to set up each farm in Rs 30 lakh and the government is giving a 50 per cent subsidy to those who establish such units.

Andhra Pradesh: Distribute implements under Yantra Seva by taking RBK as a unit, says CM



Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy instructed officials to take measures for the availability of agriculture machinery, tools and equipment at all the Rythu Bharosa Kendras (RBKs) under the YSR Yantra Seva programme in AP.

RBKs are digital kiosks for farmers to know real-time market price and to place orders. RBKs also sells products tested, packed, and graded by the government.

Jagan Mohan Reddy said that the data relating to the YSR Yantra Seva should be displayed at RBKs in the form of posters so that farmers can understand the availability and utility.

He said all the implements must be distributed taking RBK as a unit adding that the state is spending Rs 910 crore for the programme. He also wanted the construction of procurement centres, godowns and cold storage rooms within the vicinity of the RBKs to be expedited.

Self Help schemes should be continued for sustained economic development under the Cheyutha programme. By distributing cattle, milk production and economic activity would increase which will lead to empowerment of women," he said adding that officials should ensure that women should be economically benefitted by the tie-up with Amul and Allana.

Ensure pastoralists covered under government schemes: Centre to states

The Union government admitted that India's pastoralist communities fell through the cracks when it comes to them benefitting from various schemes. It has urged states with sizeable population of such communities to work to prevent this.

There is a significant population of pastoralists or cattle herders across India who move from one place to another to graze their animals. There are no official numbers but according to organisations working with pastoralists, about 10 million and 20 million pastoralists graze India's forests and grasslands respectively.



The Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying wrote a letter August 23, 2022 to the different state animal husbandry departments. The letter asked the states to provide assistance to pastoralists under National Livestock Mission, Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) and Rashtriya Gokul Mission (for cattle).

Till now, the schemes pertaining to livestock were mostly catering to farmers and the settled population of animal keepers. The pastoralists are theoretically not excluded from the schemes but the regulation documents don't mention the community specifically.

The Union government, in the letter, asked the states to look into the possibility of a farmer-producer organisation or cooperative of the members of the pastoral community for establishing and managing dairy and meat processing centres.

Joint Initiative of Agri Ministry & FICCI Launched to Attract PPP Projects in Agriculture



Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Minister of Agriculture and Family Welfare, launched the Project Management Unit (PMU) on Public-Private Partnership (PPP) in Agriculture in New Delhi. Speaking on the occasion, Tomar emphasized the importance of strengthening the agriculture sector because it will help strengthen other sectors.

He went on to say that the PPP model could be the ideal model for agricultural growth, and that PPP projects should focus on benefiting farmers by increasing their income. According to Tomar, the empowerment of the agriculture sector is critical for the country and society. "If the government continues to do all of the work, this is not an ideal situation; only with public participation can better things be done." "With everyone's help, the government can deliver better results in any sector," he said.

Tomar stated that the Trade and Industry sector is strong and well-organized and that they have all the resources necessary to promote the Agriculture sector. The government, for its part, is taking ongoing steps to strengthen the agriculture sector through various schemes such as the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund worth Rs. One Lakh Crore, the establishment of 10,000 Farmers Producer Organizations (FPO), and the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima scheme.

Shubrakant Panda, Senior Vice President, FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry) expressed confidence that the PMU initiative for PPP in Agriculture, will accelerate large-scale PPP projects in agriculture by leveraging private sector investments and bringing government schemes and subsidies closer together.

Lumpy skin disease: Centre tells states to speed up vaccination as 57,000 cattle die



The Centre said that about 57,000 cattle have died so far due to 'lumpy skin disease' across various parts of the country and asked affected states to boost the vaccination process to control the disease.

Lumpy skin disease (LSD) is a contagious viral disease that affects cattle and causes fever, nodules on the skin and can also lead to death.

"Lumpy skin disease has spread in 6-7 states, including Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. In Andhra Pradesh,

cases have been reported," said Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Parshottam Rupala.

Rupala said he has visited five states to assess the situation and oversee containment operations. The ministry is monitoring the situation daily. The minister asserted that 'Goat Pox Vaccine' is "very effective" and available, and asked state governments to speed up the vaccination process.

The minister said there has not been any impact on milk production so far. Rupala said the disease can be controlled with an increase in vaccination and following the protocol for controlling and containing the disease. The minister told states to follow the protocol of burying dead cattle.

Lumpy Skin Disease: Yogi govt to adopt Malaysian model to check virus

The Uttar Pradesh government has planned a 300-km long and 10-km wide 'immune belt' between Pilibhit and Etawah, passing through 23 blocks of five districts with an aim to curbing the lumpy virus disease among animals in the state. The immune belt is the creation of a zone to check the spread of virus.

So far, 21,619 cows from 2,331 villages of the state have been affected by the lumpy virus, out of which 199 have died, while 9,834 have been treated and have recovered. To overcome the deadly virus, the Yogi government is running a massive vaccination campaign. More than 5,83,600 cattle have been vaccinated so far.

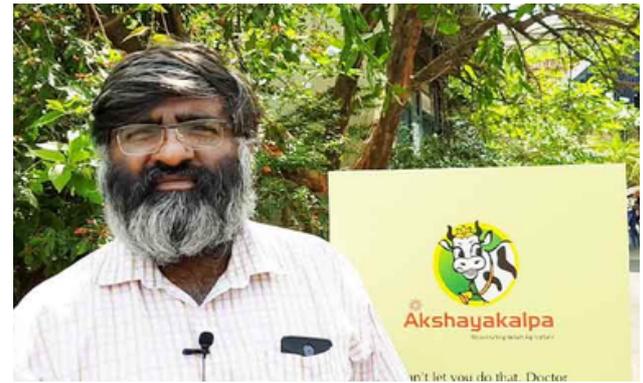


A special enforcement team will be formed by the department of animal husbandry for surveillance under the Immune Belt. The task force will handle the tracking and treatment of animals infected with the lumpy virus. Earlier, a similar effort to prevent animal infection has been done in Malaysia in 2020, the results of which were very positive.

Organic dairy startup Akshayakalpa Organic raises \$15 million in funding

Organic dairy startup Akshayakalpa Organic said it has raised USD 15 million (about Rs 120 crore) from investors for growth. British International Investment, the UK's development finance institution, Rainmatter Foundation, and its existing investor Venture Dairy have joined the Series B funding round, the company said in a statement.

Founded by GNS Reddy and Shashi Kumar, Akshayakalpa Organic is one of the leading organic milk producers in the country. Akshayakalpa plans to aggressively invest in Bengaluru, Chennai, and Hyderabad markets. It is also planning to expand into new geographies of Pune, Mumbai and Kochi and take its dairy products pan India.



It currently works with over 750 farmer families. It supplies organic milk and milk products to 60,000+ consumers daily in Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Chennai through its direct delivery platform. Its products are available across 2,000 retail outlets and all the major e-commerce/quick commerce platforms.

"Over the last few years, consumers have become more conscious about living healthier lifestyles. With support from British International Investment, Rainmatter, and Venture Dairy, we hope to continue retaining the uncompromised quality of our products. We will continue to serve more customers while deepening our efforts to create sustainable farming systems and restore dignity to rural India," said Shashi, co-founder and CEO at Akshayakalpa Organic.

ASCI signs MoU with DAGE for establishing CoE in Farm Mechanization in Bhopal



Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI)-the Sector Skill Council on Agriculture, working under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship signs an MoU with the Directorate of Agriculture Engineering (DAGE) in the presence of Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Madhya Pradesh, Shri Kamal Patel for the setting up of Centre of Excellence for Farm Mechanization (CEFSI) in order to empower farmers, wage workers and other stakeholders in the agricultural and farm mechanization value chain. CEFSI will be an institution that will provide leadership, establish best practices, undertake research on the evolution of the Farm Mechanization sector and modulate new skill requirements for the technology changes, facilitate training for the Farm Mechanization sector, and provide advocacy & advisory services.

The proposed institution will take leadership in knowledge management, skilling and capacity building, and delivery of higher quality and specialized skill training programs for the upcoming future needs of the sector. The center will maintain close relationships and will work in close collaboration with the Govt., industry, Research and Academia, and experts in the Farm Mechanization sector.

Dairying & Sustainable Development Goals

Centre of Excellence for Dairy Skills in India(CEDSI) helps the empowerment and betterment of Livelihood for farmers, wage workers, and other stakeholders in the Dairy & allied sector value chain. We have taken this initiative to aware all the stakeholders on how working in dairy sector would bring real change. Every week we shall publish about how each goal is associated with dairy & livestock and is bringing holistic sustainable development for all.

Goal 1: No Poverty

Goal 1 of the United Nations' Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDG 1) takes a multidimensional approach to end poverty in all its forms. SDG 1 targets

- 1) Eradicating extreme poverty
- 2) Building resilience amongst the poor
- 3) Creating sound policy frameworks

Dairying / Livestock perfect partner for SDG Goal 1

Livestock plays an important role in helping poor households maintain their livelihood levels. livestock activities constitute the third most important source of income, after crops and non-agricultural employment. Livestock is catalytic in helping rural households achieve their livelihood objectives, some of them are

- Enhance human capital by providing access to food, continued good health, and labour for the pursuit of activities
- Build social capital, strengthening the cultural diversity and heritage of several ethnic groups and populations
- Contribute to the stock of the natural capital that provides the resources and services needed to maintain and improve livelihoods
- Increase physical capital, providing transport, draught power and alternative energy for households to support and improve their productivity
- Increase the financial capital of families, provide a mechanism for savings, and serve as liquid assets, or as credit collateral, for securing livelihood goals
- Act as an important buffer against external shocks



Livestock thus plays a major role as a source of income diversification in rural households' economic portfolios. The relationship between livestock activities, income diversification and poverty reduction is not straightforward. The major challenge of dairy development is the unavailability of data and also the data quality. Often the statistical information available in agricultural or household surveys does not allow one to differentiate between various livestock activities in household livelihood strategies. The contrary part of the relationship of the dairy sector to income improvement is still inconclusive. The lacking of primary data collected often leads to an inadequate analysis. Livestock in itself is not a stand-alone entity or a driver to lower poverty instead it works in amalgamation with other economic activities, since there is no direct correlation between livestock and income. Livestock's contribution should be understood in light of the catalytic role they play in helping poor people achieve their livelihood goals. To better capture the relationship between livestock and poverty, the contribution of livestock production to income generation should not be isolated from other agricultural and non-agricultural sources of income. They all form part of the complex livelihood strategies employed by rural households to build resilience and fight poverty.

Climate plays an important part in livelihood management and, dealing with climatic shocks and other types of exogenous income-reducing crises can be extremely hard for poor, ill-equipped households and this can lead to increased misery and uncertainty. These difficulties are magnified when shocks hit all members of the same community simultaneously, as in the case of natural disasters and other climatic shocks. The role of livestock in building resilience against external climatic shock can be viewed as a precautionary form. The best practice is an integrated farm owning both crops and livestock is more resilient to these shocks.

Conclusion

SDG 1 calls for a multidimensional approach to ending poverty. Livestock can indeed play a catalytic role in strengthening the assets that rural households use to achieve their livelihood objectives, and in increasing the resilience of families to external shocks.

Partner with CEDSI to Implement social development projects in alignment with SDG Goals



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