

Govt grants Rs 95 Crore to 7500 Cattle-rearers: Madhya Pradesh



The government has provided a grant of Rs 95 crore to 7500 cattle-rearers under the Acharya Vidyasagar Gau Samvardhan Yojana launched by the animal husbandry department as per the instructions of chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan. The scheme is aimed at promoting self-employment opportunities along with improvement of the economic condition of cattle-rearers, besides encouraging entrepreneurship development in the field of animal husbandry.

Director of animal husbandry and dairy Dr RK Vlechia said that in 2022-23, a target has been set to help about 350 beneficiaries with a budget provision of Rs 8.20 crore. A maximum grant amount of Rs 1.50 lakh is given to beneficiaries of general category and up to Rs 2 lakh to those of Scheduled Caste and Tribe category with the aim of increasing milk production, improving economic condition of the beneficiaries and providing employment opportunities.

Include milk in breakfast scheme : Dairy farmers, Tamil Nadu



Dairy farmers have urged the State government to include milk in the breakfast scheme announced during the recent Assembly session. They have suggested that either milk that is heated to ultra high temperatures (UHT), which has a shelf life of 120 days, or milk powder could be provided to the children.

"The Chief Minister, M.K. Stalin, had announced that the government would provide breakfast to the children studying in government schools, which is a welcome move. If milk is added to their diet, it will help improve their calcium level and also that of other vitamins and minerals," said M.G. Rajendran, general secretary of the Tamil Nadu Milk Producers Welfare Association.

Lumpy Skin Disease Virus Strikes Gujarat for the 1st Time



Lumpy skin disease virus (LSDV), which can lend a severe economic blow to cattle-breeders, has been found in two districts of Gujarat for the first time. It is usually prevalent in African countries and has been categorised as a notifiable disease by the World Organisation for Animal Health. In Gujarat it has been found in Jamnagar and Dwarka districts.

The virus has been observed for the first time in Jamnagar and has taken the life of one cattle. The disease mainly causes fever among other symptoms. It does not directly kill the cattle, but if not treated the cattle can die due to lack of appetite. So far, 211 cows have been found affected and treated by the administration. The treatment includes four to five days of medicines and administration of injections. To prevent spread of the disease, 2,343 cows have been vaccinated. LSDV is a vector-borne disease but not as infectious as airborne diseases.

Cotton seed price rise is making life tough for dairy farmers who use it as cattle feed : Tamil Nadu

The dairy farmers of Tirupur, T.N are affected after the increased price of cotton seeds led to an increase in the price of cattle feed. Cotton seeds are a vital part of the cattle feed and are rich in protein and fibre.

Farmers says, that the price of cotton seeds has gone up from Rs 2000 to Rs 2500 in a span of four months. Tamil Nadu Milk Producers Association leader Kolanthaisamy, said that "The rising prices of cotton seeds will also affect ordinary farmers who have a few cows, not just big dairy farmers. The scarcity of cotton seeds is having an impact on farmers."



The dairy farmers of Tirupur area are worried that the unprecedented hike will directly affect the production of milk. Farmers who have five to ten cows are affected the most as most have three or four labourers who charge Rs 600 per day and with the increase in the price of cattle feed, the venture goes into a loss.

Over 21,000 animals vaccinated against foot-&-mouth disease in Chandigarh



The Department of Animal Husbandry and Fisheries has so far vaccinated over 21,000 livestock free of cost, which includes cattle, buffaloes, sheep, goats and pigs, against the foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) and all bovine female calves against the brucellosis disease.

The National Animal Disease Control Programme, a Government of India, initiative for eradication of the FMD and brucellosis in livestock is being taken up by the department since its inception in 2020.

SS Gill, Secretary, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, said the overall aim of the programme was to control the FMD and brucellosis by regular vaccination and its eventual eradication by 2030.

So far, in Chandigarh the department vaccinated over 21,000 livestock free of cost, which includes cattle, buffaloes, sheep, goats and pigs, against the FMD and all bovine female calves against brucellosis disease, said Gill. The effective implementation of this programme would improve the health status and productivity of livestock population, Gill added.

Gaushala work under MGNREGS : Karnataka

The deputy director of the animal husbandry and veterinary services department, Dr Prasanna Kumar, has said that the work on cowsheds in the district gaushala at Ramakunja in Kadaba taluk will be taken up under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

At the Zilla Prani Daya Sangha meeting, chaired by deputy commissioner Rajendra KV, said the government had sanctioned Rs 36 lakh for the gaushala. The first phase of work has been approved. Two borewells have been sunk on the identified land and there is enough water in it.

The Zilla Prani Daya Sangha has recommended financial assistance for nine gaushalas from the government through support to the Pinjarapoles and other Caushala schemes.

The DC said that the district administration had written to the New Mangalore Port Authority for protection and maintenance of stray cattle found loitering in the Panambur. The administration has taken steps to open gaushala in taluks.



TN receives 63 high-genetic merit bulls to increase milk production



Three semen stations in Tamil Nadu received 63 high genetic merit bulls from across India to help increase milk production in the State. A bull distribution panel headed by the mission director of National Dairy Plan functioning under the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) distributed the bulls ranked based on their breeding value.

The project aimed at fulfilling the need for high genetic bulls for semen stations was funded under Rashtriya Gokul Mission. About 225 bulls will be supplied to TN between 2019 and 2022 and a grant of Rs 20.87 crore was approved for it.

The bulls ranking for producing semen will be based on their mother's milk-yielding capacity. The plan is to

enhance milk-yielding capacity of the bull's progeny to 10 to 12 litres a day. Currently, Holstein Friesians and Jersey cross-breed cows produce six to nine litres of milk a day.

According to the official data, the per capita milk availability in the State is 316 grams in 2019-2020, while the national average is 406. Dairy farmers said the milk-yielding capacity of cows in TN is relatively lower compared to other States due to water scarcity and destruction of green cover.

Milk procurement prices hiked by ₹55 per kg fat in Punjab

Punjab cooperation minister Harpal Singh Cheema on Tuesday announced an increase in milk procurement prices by ₹55 per kg fat for dairy farmers. The decision was taken after a meeting with a delegation of dairy farmers. The increase in milk procurement prices will not have any impact on retail milk prices, said the minister.

The dairy farmers, under the banner of Progressive Dairy Farmers Association (PDFA), on May 21 held a massive protest at a state-owned milk plant in Mohali, seeking hike in milk procurement prices. They had demanded at least ₹100 per kg fat increase in the procurement price. They ended their protest after the state government assured them to consider their demand.



Cheema said Punjab State Cooperative Milk Producers Federation Limited (Milkfed) has always been offering high milk purchase prices to the producers. Milkfed managing director Kamaldeep Singh Sangha said with the latest hike, the milk procurement prices have risen by ₹105 per kg fat in the last two-and-a-half months.

Dairy farmers being fleeced, says Kewal Singh Pathania: Himachal Pradesh



Congress workers led by HPCC general secretary Kewal Singh Pathania met Deputy Commissioner, Kangra, Nipun Jindal against the high prices of fodder in the district.

Later, Pathania alleged that the dairy farmers of the district were suffering due to high prices of fodder. The prices of fodder that were about Rs 700 per quintal has gone up to Rs 1700 per quintal. The people, who are bringing and selling fodder from the adjoining state of Punjab, were fleecing the dairy farmers of the district, he alleged.

Their weighing was faulty. We have requested the DC to direct the weights and measures department to check the “weighing equipment of the people supplying fodder in the state”, he alleged. The government should come to the help of dairy farmers of the state who are facing shortage of fodder and are being fleeced by suppliers, he said.

Mooofarm Expects Revenue To Touch INR 200 Crores In FY23

The Agritech startup, Mooofarm, offering Dairy-as-a-Service for dairy farmers, is expecting to close the upcoming financial year (FY23) with consolidated revenues of INR 200 crores. Whereas, the startup is registering the current revenue of 55 crores (FY22). This is the highest recorded revenue in the dairy space of the startup ecosystem, which makes Mooofarm a cash and vision-rich business.

"With a mission to make farmers prosperous, Mooofarm is building a Dairy-as-a-Service for the Dairy Farmers where farmers can induct high-quality cattle, access financial services, order farm inputs, discuss their problems with qualified veterinarians and connect with fellow farmers on an easy to use a mobile application. We are glad that more and more farmers are getting associated with us and leveraging the technology for a sustainable future for all," says Param Singh, Founder of Mooofarm.

Mooofarm's vision started with building a connected commerce platform, strongly driven by technology to increase income for 80 million dairy farmers in India with small solutions that make the process feasible and accessible to every farmer at their fingertips.



Dairy sector to see 11-12 % revenue growth in FY23 aided by value-added products



India's organised dairy sector is likely to achieve 11-12 per cent revenue growth this financial year, the second straight year of double-digit growth, mainly driven by healthy demand for value-added products (VAP), according to a report. Revenue growth of the organised dairy sector this financial year will be a notch below the last fiscal's 13 per cent growth.

This revenue growth will be driven by a healthy demand for VAP (28 per cent of overall sales), even as sales of liquid milk stays steady and the full-year benefit of retail price hikes implemented last fiscal is realised, it noted.

Within VAP, strong recovery is expected in the demand for ice cream, curd and flavoured milk, the report stated.

However, operating profitability would moderate to 5 per cent this fiscal, because of a rise in procurement prices as well as transportation and packaging costs.

On the other hand, liquid milk sales should sustain 9-10 per cent revenue growth this fiscal, given the full-year benefit of two price hikes last fiscal, even as volumes remain steady, it added. Dairies had hiked milk prices by Rs 2 per litre each in June 2021 and February 2022, which should result in a 4-5 per cent year-on-year growth in average realisation this fiscal.

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