

Minister for Agriculture urges banks to encourage dairy farming



Minister for Agriculture S. Niranjan Reddy has urged banks to encourage dairy farming in Telangana.

The Minister, addressed Telangana State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) meeting to review performance of the banks for the quarter-ended December 2022, said this pointing to how milk had to be procured from other States amid a rising demand in the State.

By encouraging dairy farming, the banks would contribute to making the State self sufficient in dairy and dairy products, Mr. Reddy said.

In a presentation on performance of the banks upto December this fiscal, SLBC president and State Bank of India CGM Amit Jhingran said total deposits of the banks increased ₹15,105 crore to ₹6,47,630 crore. Total advances increased ₹37,380 crore to ₹769,713 crore. CD ratio stood at 118.85%.

Jammu and Kashmir: Over 1500 cooperatives formed in 18 months



Counting various initiatives taken by the Cooperatives Department, Commissioner Secretary, Yasha Mudgal said that more than 1500 cooperatives were formed in 18 months across Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking during a seminar on Cooperative Development organised by LEAD LJK Economic Growth and Development Dialogue (LEAD), in association with Sahakar Bharati and J&K Dairy Cooperative Federation Ltd, to highlight various aspects of the cooperative movement in J&K here at Kargil Bhawan, she highlighted about the mandate of the government for the development of the cooperative sector and various initiatives taken by the department for the revival of essential institutes for cooperative development, including cooperative banks and cooperative training institutes.

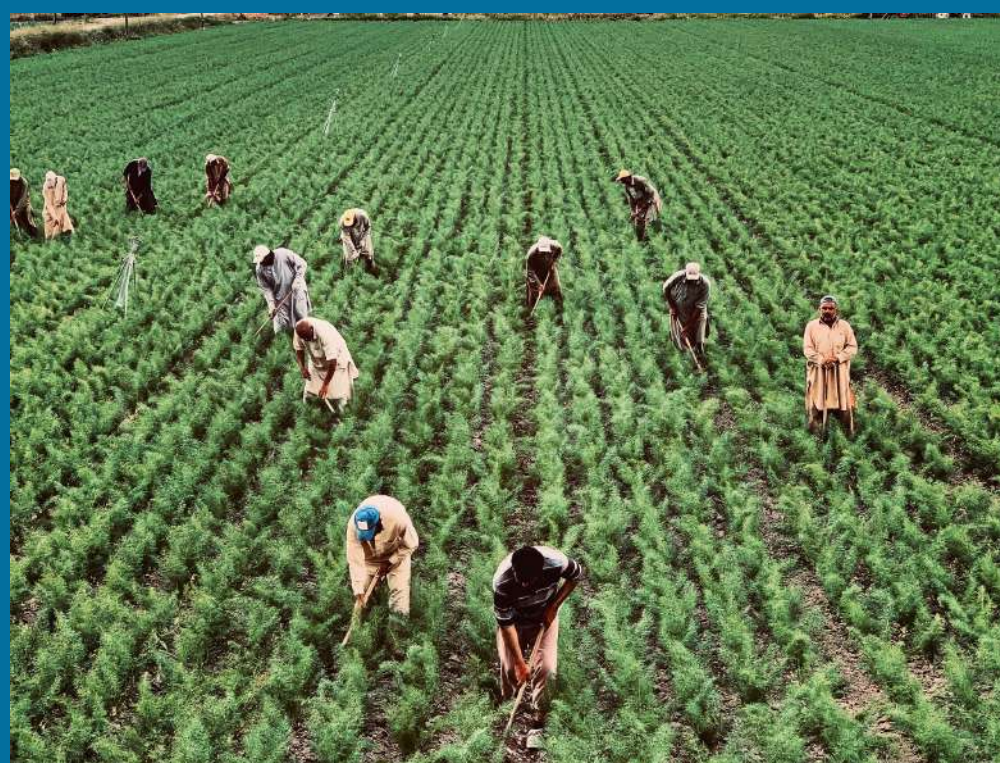
Govt informs 38 indigenous breeds of different livestock and poultry species 'at risk'



The government has informed that 38 indigenous breeds of different livestock and poultry species are 'at risk' in the country. In reply to a question in the Parliament today, Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Parshottam Rupala said 14 indigenous breeds are under vulnerable, 19 breeds are under endangered and 5 breeds are under critical category.

He further said that Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)-National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR) located in Karnal (Haryana) takes care of registration of livestock in the country. He said a total of 212 indigenous animal breeds have been registered till date which includes 187 breeds of livestock, 22 breeds of poultry and three breeds of dogs.

TN Govt Allocates Rs. 14,000 Crore Worth Crop Loans, Rs. 1500 Crore For Animal Husbandry



Agriculture Minister M. R. K. Panneerselvam announced that the Tamil Nadu government will offer cooperative crop loans totalling Rs. 14,000 crores to farmers in the state during 2023–2024 and interest-free cooperative loans totalling Rs. 1,500 crores for goat rearing, dairying, poultry, and fisheries.

According to the minister, the cooperative agency gave crop loans of Rs. 12,648 crores to Rs. 1.643 million farmers in 2022–2023. According to the average of the previous ten years, "this represents a rise of 89%," he stated.

After six years, he said, production of 11.19 million metric tonnes of food grains was reached, which is 1.17 million metric tonnes more than that of 2020–21.

The government is launching a Rs 3 Crore worth project involving the overseas training of 150 farmers in countries, such as Israel, the Netherlands, Thailand, Egypt, Malaysia, and the Philippines, to learn their practices.

In line with the "International Year of Millets," the minister has also proposed the Tamil Nadu Millet Mission. "Subsidies will be given for bringing crop diversification via millets in 50,000 acres," the minister stated.

The government will also establish 725 clusters covering 14,500 hectares in 32 districts and educate farmers, rural youth, farm women, and students on the value of organic farming.

Walmart foundation aims to reach 1 million farmers to improve livelihood

Expanding its commitment to improving farmer livelihoods in India, Walmart Foundation announced that it aims to reach an additional 1 million farmers, including 50% women, by 2028.

As part of its 5-year strategy, the organisation will invest \$3 million to reach 24 FPOs and 30,000 smallholder farmers in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, while another \$533,876 grant will be used to reach 1,000 women smallholder farmers in Odisha, connecting them with two FPOs.



"The Walmart Foundation's latest commitment will support over 800,000 smallholder farmers and give them market access, which will help create shared value for all stakeholders," Kathleen McLaughlin, Executive Vice President and Chief Sustainability Officer at the philanthropic organisation said, while addressing a conference in New Delhi.

With a special focus to benefit women farmers, Walmart Foundation aims to train smallholder farmers on sustainable farming methods and technology across several states, including Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, and to boost their incomes through the new set of grants.

This five-year strategy is an extension to the Walmart Foundation's investments since 2018 to improve livelihood of farmers in India and expand their access to commercial goods markets. The Walmart Foundation has funded philanthropic grants worth over \$39 million to support smallholder farmers in India through 24 grant programs with 16 grantees across several states.

Govt's PMFME scheme for micro food processing units sanctions over 25,000 loans



PM Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PMFME), which offers credit-linked subsidy to set up or upgrade micro food processing units, has received over 1,02,515 loan applications so far. Out of the applications received, 25,774 loan applications have been sanctioned, according to the data shared by the minister of food processing industries Pashupati Kumar Paras in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha.

The scheme looks to support the setting up of 2 lakh micro food processing enterprises through credit-linked subsidy during the five-year period from 2020-21 to 2024-25 with an outlay of Rs 10,000 crore.

Apart from credit support, the scheme also has a capacity-building component to train individual micro-food processing enterprises with or without credit linked grant under the scheme, workers of micro-food processing enterprises and groups such as self-help groups, farmer producer organisations and cooperatives apart from government officials and others engaged in the implementation of the scheme.

Importantly, the ministry has signed memorandums of understanding or joint letters with multiple government enterprises and departments such as the Indian Council for Agriculture Research (ICAR), Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), and more to converge PMFME scheme with other government schemes, identify and handhold beneficiaries in capacity building, marketing and increasing outreach of scheme.

Minister of state Prahlad Singh Patel in the ministry of food processing industries noted that for easy and affordable credit to the sector, all food and agro-processing activities have been made eligible under priority sector lending while a special fund of Rs 2,000 crore has been set up in National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to support these enterprises.

Animal ambulances to roll out in MP next month

Over 400 animal ambulances will start running in the state from next month and a call centre is being set up for the same.

The process of preparing 406 veterinary units (animal ambulances) to provide medical facilities to sick animals is going on in Bhopal. Animal husbandry minister Prem Singh Patel said that efforts are being made to start this system from April. He said that humans can reach the hospital when they fall sick, but an animal cannot. This system is being started in the state for such animals. 406 animal ambulances sanctioned for the state have been received from the Central Government.



Provision has been made to provide fully fabricated vehicles to the district animal welfare committee. Rs 68 thousand per month will be given per vehicle for animal medicine, fuel and maintenance. The Directorate of Animal Husbandry and Dairying will operate, control and monitor the call center at the state level. The animal ambulance is a central government initiative and will be implemented in MP. It was announced in the state budget presented in March 2022.

Who are we ?

“The Centre of Excellence for Dairy Skills in India (CEDSI)” an autonomous institution working under the aegis of the Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) under the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, to help the empowerment and betterment of Livelihood of farmers, wage workers, and other stakeholders in the Dairy value chain.

CEDSI Membership will provide a unique platform for the industry leaders, policymakers, development practitioners, dairy scientists, researchers, students, and farmers to debate and discuss the issues of imminent importance to the dairy industry.



Centre of Excellence for Dairy Skills in India

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| ✓ Access to our Journal and Publications | ✓ Consulting and advisory services to help members |
| ✓ Expert advice in day-to-day operations and management of livestock /farm productions | ✓ Periodic e-newsletter for the latest news, govt. announcement and schemes in dairy sectors |
| ✓ Free registration on the job portal and regular updates on job vacancies in the sector | ✓ Updates on training programs of CEDSI and access to the training calendar |

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