

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING  
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3160  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023

**INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH**

3160. SHRI T.R. BAALU:

Will the Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying

मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has recommended that India should shift from traditional animal husbandry practices and invest in new technologies to animal breeding and rearing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and  
(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union and State Governments in this regard?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING  
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)**

(a) and (b) The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has not received recommendation from Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) that India should shift from traditional animal husbandry practices and invest in new technologies to animal breeding and rearing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. However, in India dairy sector plays an important role in rural economy and provide livelihood support to more than 8 crore rural families. About 12-26% of the rural household income comes from the Animal Husbandry and dairying sector. Further, land in our country is not equitably distributed among the farmers whereas, more than 90% of the livestock are with small, marginal and landless labourers. Indian livestock utilize large volumes of agricultural byproducts and unconventional feed material. Due to the traditional way of manure management in India such as preparation of dung cakes and use of farm yard manure, the cow dung methane emission is also negligible. In order to modernize traditional animal husbandry practices and adopt new technologies in Animal Husbandry to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from livestock following steps has been taken by the Department and are implemented by the States:

- (i) **Breed Improvement:** Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is promoting breed improvement under Rashtriya Gokul Mission to enhance milk production and productivity, genetic upgradation of bovine population thereby making dairying more green and sustainable.

- (ii) **Balanced Feeding:** Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is promoting green fodder production, silage making, chaff cutting and total mixed ration under National Livestock Mission. Ration Balancing Programme is promoted under National Dairy Plan-I. Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has launched e Gopala App on 10.9.2020 for farmers, this app is guiding farmers for balanced feeding of animals.
- (iii) **Improving Feed Quality:** To reduce the ill-effects of poor quality feed, the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has issued advisory to the States for urea-molasses treatment of straw, silage making and chopping of fodder before feeding livestock.
- (iv) **Improvement in Health Status:** In order to control and eradicate animal diseases the Department is implementing disease control programme for control of FMD, Brucellosis, Pesti-des Petits Ruminants (PPR) and Classical Swine Fever (CSF) through carpet vaccination for all eligible livestock in the country. Funds are made available to States for establishment of Mobile Veterinary Units in order to deliver quality livestock health services at the farmers doorstep.
- (v) **Better management of cow dung** is promoted by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying. With the efforts made by the Department National Dairy Development Board has taken up a establishment of 4000 cubic meter biogas plant at Varanasi Milk union, which will use 100 MT per day of dung purchased from farmers. The biogas is used to produce thermal and electrical energy required for milk processing of the dairy plant. Bioslurry obtained from the plant will be converted in biofertilizer and made available to member farmers at reasonable rates.
- (vi) Banaskantha Milk Union has installed 2000 cubic meter of biogas plant. Around 40 Tonnes of dung is purchased by the union from its farmers to produce the biogas. The biogas produced is purified and compressed to produce CBG which is used as fuel in vehicles. An exclusive CBG fuel station is setup by the Banaskantha Milk Union. Bio slurry produced from the biogas plant is utilized to produce value added organic fertilizer and sold at reasonable rates to dairy farmers.
- (vii) **Better management of dung** is also promoted under Gobardhan Yojna by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has developed small size user friendly biogas plants for better utilization of cow dung and minimizing methane emission.
- (viii) Central Pollution Control Board formulated the Guidelines and circulated to all the State Pollution Control Boards /Pollution Control Committees for implementation in their States/Union Territories to reduce pollution in rural areas.

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