

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION No. 184
ANSWERED ON 5TH AUGUST 2026

CRISIS IN THE DAIRY SECTOR AND PROTECTION OF DAIRY FARMERS

*184. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to address the acute distress faced by dairy farmers, particularly in Maharashtra, who are reportedly selling milk below production cost due to rising feed, labour and input expenses;
- (b) whether Government has assessed the impact of falling procurement prices, export uncertainty and seasonal oversupply on farmers' livelihoods;
- (c) the details of synthetic milk and adulteration cases detected during the last three years, State-wise, and action taken against the offenders;
- (d) the impact of restrictions on loose milk sales on small vendors and consumers; and
- (e) the measures proposed to ensure remunerative milk prices, curb adulteration and protect dairy farmers' livelihoods?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

- (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 184 PART (A) TO (E) ON “CRISIS IN THE DAIRY SECTOR AND PROTECTION OF DAIRY FARMERS” ANSWERED ON 05.08.2026

(a) & (b) No such report has been received by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Government of India (GoI). Milk prices are determined by the Dairy cooperatives and Private Dairies themselves based on market conditions.

The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD), Government of India, is implementing following schemes across the country including Maharashtra to complement and supplement the efforts of State Governments in strengthening animal husbandry and dairy infrastructure:

1. Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM)
2. National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD)
3. Supporting Dairy Cooperatives & Farmer Producer Organisations engaged in dairy activities (SDCFPO)
4. Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF)
5. National Livestock Mission (NLM)
6. Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme (LHDCP)

These schemes aim to improve milk productivity of bovine, expand the network of dairy cooperatives, strengthen dairy infrastructure, meet working capital needs, increase the supply of feed and fodder, and provide animal health services. These measures help to reduce the cost of milk production, strengthen cooperatives, expand the organised dairy sector, and ensure that milk producers receive the maximum share of the consumer price.

As reported by the milk unions/federations, the average milk procurement price of major milk unions at the all-India level has increased by about Rs 1–2 per litre in June 2026 compared to the previous year. In Maharashtra, the increase has been about Rs 3–4 per litre in June 2026 compared to the previous year. The details are as under:

Month-Year	All India		Maharashtra	
	Cow milk price in Rupees per Litre (3.5% Fat & 8.5% SNF)	Buffalo milk price in Rupees per Litre (6% Fat & 9% SNF)	Cow milk price in Rupees per Litre (3.5% Fat & 8.5% SNF)	Buffalo milk price in Rupees per Litre (6% Fat & 9% SNF)
June-2025	35.30	48.40	32.40	49.00
June 2026	36.90	50.40	36.50	52.00

(c) & (d) The matter of synthetic milk, adulteration and restrictions on loose milk sales comes under the preview of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). FSSAI is mandated to lay down science-based standards for food articles including milk and milk product and its regulations, which functions under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

However, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has so far provided 76,748 testing equipment to village-level dairy cooperative societies to ensure quality milk procurement.

(e) The ongoing schemes of DAHD supplement and complement the efforts of State Government to ensures remunerative milk prices, improve milk quality and protect dairy farmers' livelihoods.