

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2024
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH MARCH, 2023

WITHDRAWAL OF SMALL SCALE DAIRY FARMERS FROM THE SECTOR

2024. SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA:

Will the Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the farmers who ventured into small-scale dairy farming to survive the pandemic induced financial crisis are slowly withdrawing from the sector, unable to generate a steady income owing to skyrocketing operational costs;
- (b) if so, the steps taken so far by Government to resolve this situation; and
- (c) whether Government is planning to develop a comprehensive policy to transform India into the dairy powerhouse and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a), (b) and (c): The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has not received any information on dairy farmers withdrawing from dairying as they are unable to generate a steady income owing to skyrocketing operational costs. However, Dairying is sustainable activity in rural India as it is playing important role in providing livelihood support to more than 8 crore rural households engaged in dairying mainly small and marginal farmers and landless labours. As per National Account Statistics 2022, the value of output of milk in 2021-22 is Rs 9.35 lakh crore at current prices surpassing total value of output from food grains. Following steps are being taken by the Department to make dairying more remunerative to farmers:

- (i) Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM) is implemented with the aim of development and conservation of indigenous bovine breeds, genetic upgradation of bovine population and enhancing milk production and productivity of bovines.
- (ii) National Programme for Dairy Development is implemented with the objective to create dairy infrastructure for procurement, processing and marketing of milk and milk products.

- (iii) Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing a Central Sector scheme for dairy development Dairy Processing & Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF) to modernize the milk and milk products processing plants and machinery.
- (iv) A new component to provide one time support in the form of Interest subvention on working capital loans was introduced for the financial year 2020-21 under ongoing scheme Support to State Dairy Cooperative & Farmers Producers Organization scheme (SDCFPO).
- (v) For the first time the KCC Scheme is extended for all farmers involved in animal husbandry sector including dairy farming.
- (vi) The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, is implementing Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) worth Rs. 15000 crore to facilitate incentivisation of investments in establishment of dairy processing and value addition infrastructure.
- (vii) National Livestock Mission is focusing on improved availability of quality feed and fodder and risk coverage of livestock including dairy animals. The scheme is also focusing on entrepreneurship Development fodder sector.
- (viii) Livestock Health and Disease Control (LH & DC) is implemented for providing assistance for control of animal diseases like Foot and Mouth Disease, Brucellosis and also provide assistance to State Governments for Control of other infectious diseases of livestock including dairy animals. Mobile Veterinary Units are established under the scheme to deliver quality livestock health services at farmers doorstep.
- (ix) Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is generating awareness among farmers about organization of animal husbandry in modern scientific lines including dairy sector.
