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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2335
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH DECEMBER, 2021

BREEDING OF COWS

2335. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the fact that the foreign breed of cows become sterile after bearing off springs twice or thrice in Indian atmosphere and breeding them becomes disadvantageous and impossible for the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that reproductivity and the quality of milk produced by Indian breed of cows is better than that of foreign breed of cows;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government has prepared any action plan to develop the breeding of Indian breed of cows; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) to (d) As per Indian Council of Agricultural Research Indian breeds of cows are considered to have better reproduction. The analysis of data indicates that Indian cow breeds has shown a higher herd life and stability in the farm compared to crossbreds. The majority of the crossbreds cows maintained in Indian conditions completes 2 to 3 lactations whereas, majority of Indian cows (Sahiwal) completes 4 lactations (~80%) and less than 3% cows completes 9 and above lactations, under the same conditions.

As per ICAR some of the knowledge available on composition of milk of Indian and foreign (exotic) cattle breeds indicated the differences in levels and concentrations of various constituents of the milk between the two are as under:

(i) Fat and total solid percentage content for Indian dairy cattle has been reported to be higher than the exotic cattle.

(ii) Sahiwal breed of indigenous cattle has shown significantly higher concentration of unsaturated fat contents (UFA) compared to HF.

(iii) Kashmiri cattle milk proteome was characterized by increased concentrations of immune-related proteins, neonatal developmental protein while the Jersey milk proteome presented higher concentrations of enzyme modulators.

(iii) Lactoferrin contents in native cattle Malnad Gidda was significantly higher (225.20 g/ml) as compared to exotic cattle (137.8 g/ml).

(v) A1 type milk casein is considered to be implicated in gastrointestinal and other health disorders. The frequency of A2A2 genotype is higher in indigenous cattle as compared to exotic cattle.

(vi) In addition to above many other traditionally acclaimed properties and compositional differences, which opine or state about possibilities of native cows' milk to be better than exotic cows' milk, are being investigated by recent scientific techniques like proteomics, fatty acid profiling, etc, as well as scientific trials to accumulate science-based evidences.

(e) and (f) The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has been implementing Rashtriya Gokul Mission with the aim of development and conservation of indigenous bovine breeds, genetic upgradation of bovine population and enhancement of milk production and productivity of bovines. Rashtriya Gokul Mission has been leading to increase in population of high yielding animals of bovines including indigenous breeds.

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