

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1014
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31ST JULY 2024

ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION IN CATTLE

1014. DR. SYED NASEER HUSSAIN:

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

- (a) what steps Government has taken to improve the success rate of artificial insemination in cattle, which currently stands at only around 30% when compared to 60-70% in USA, Europe and 100% in Brazil;
- (b) whether importing Brazilian bull semen will lead to cross breeding and genetic erosion of indigenous breeds;
- (c) if so, what measures Government is taking to ensure the protection of indigenous breeds; and
- (d) what steps Government is taking to enhance the efficiency of artificial insemination of indigenous breeds in the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
(**SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH**)

(a) and (d) The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing Rashtriya Gokul Mission with the aim of development and conservation of indigenous bovine breeds, genetic upgradation of bovine population and enhancing milk production and productivity of bovines.

The following steps have been taken under Rashtriya Gokul Mission for enhancing efficiency and success rate of Artificial Insemination of Indigenous Breeds in the country.

- (i) Induction of Multi Purpose Artificial Insemination Technicians in Rural India (MAITRI) to make available trained manpower for delivery of quality artificial insemination services at the farmers doorstep. Assistance is also made available to States and Union Territories for refresher training of artificial insemination technicians and professionals.
- (ii) Nationwide Artificial Insemination Programme (NAIP) to extend AI coverage among bovines using semen of High Genetic Merit Bulls of indigenous bovine breeds.
- (iii) Induction of High Genetic Merit Bulls (HGM) for semen production: For production of high genetic merit bulls with known genetic potential Progeny Testing programme and Pedigree selection programme is implemented under Rashtriya Gokul Mission. High Genetic Merit Bulls produced under the programme is made available to semen stations for production of quality semen doses.
- (iv) Strengthening of semen stations: In order to improve quality of semen production Strengthening of semen stations is covered under Rashtriya Gokul Mission. Minimum Standard Protocol for semen production has been formulated by the Department and Central Monitoring Unit (CMU) has been constituted for evaluation and grading of semen stations.

(b) and (c) In order to ensure the protection of indigenous breeds from indiscriminate breeding, breed purity test of all imported germplasm is conducted in the country. To regulate import of germplasm and to avoid ingress of exotic diseases into the country Department has formulated guidelines for import and export of bovine germplasm.
