

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING  
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 394  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2021

**IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON POULTRY AND DAIRY SECTOR**

394: MS. DEBASREE CHAUDHURI:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the losses incurred by the poultry and dairy sector due to lockdown caused by COVID-19 pandemic?
- (b) if so, whether any assessment regarding such losses has been conducted?
- (c) if so, the details thereof?
- (d) whether any compensation for such losses is under consideration of the Government? and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI PARSHOTAM RUPALA)

(a) Due to COVID-19 pandemic there are losses faced by the poultry industry because of misleading facts circulated through social media and print media regarding spread of infection of coronavirus. The poultry sector suffered further losses due to lock down wherein the sale of eggs, chicken meat and transportation of feed were banned by many States.

So far as Dairy Sector is concerned, the average milk procurement from dairy farmers including procurement price paid by cooperative sector to dairy farmers has remained stable during the COVID pandemic. The average milk procurement per day during April 2019 was 473.4 Lakh litres per day (LLPD) which got increased to 480.56 LLPD in April 2020 and was 512.13 LLPD in April 2021. The average milk procurement price paid to dairy farmer by cooperative sector during April 2019 was Rs 34.38 per kg, during April 2020 was Rs 38.01 per kg and during April 2021 was Rs 39.23 per kg (for 6% fat content and 9% solid not fat content).

(b) to (e) Following steps were taken by the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying to help the Poultry sector:

- i. Advisories were issued by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying to counter the spread of rumors of Corona virus infection to human beings through poultry and poultry products.
- ii. Advisories were also issued for inclusion of Poultry feed/ poultry products and Eggs as essential commodities and transport of these items by the States.

iii. The milk situation in the country was reviewed regularly in the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying in order to monitor the milk procurement, sale, price and stocks of skimmed milk powder (SMP), butter and ghee etc. During COVID pandemic in 2020 and 2021, the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying collected information on milk procurement, price, sale and stocks on daily and weekly basis from cooperatives as well as some private dairies to analyze the dairy business situation in the country. Based on the information received and after analyzing assessment, following measures were taken:-

- a) On 13.05.2020, a new component was introduced in ongoing central sector scheme “Supporting State Dairy Cooperatives and Farmer Producer Organizations” scheme (SDC&FPO) for providing 2% interest subvention on working capital loan to cooperatives and milk producers companies and additional 2% interest subvention for prompt payment.
- b) As a part of Atmanirbhar Bharat package, Department launched “Campaign for Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) for providing working capital loan to dairy farmers of Milk Cooperatives and Milk Producer Companies” from June 2020 and December 2020.
- c) This Department had requested State Governments of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Punjab, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and other States to introduce milk/milk powder through aanganwadis/Mid-Day meal network. The states of Rajasthan, Karnataka, Bihar, Haryana and Punjab started the supply to ease out the situation.
- d) Under the Prime Minister’s Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan stimulus package Government of India has introduced a new scheme namely Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) with an outlay of Rs 15000 Cr for incentivizing the establishment of dairy processing and value addition, meat processing and value addition, Animal feed units and Breed Multiplication farm and Breed improvement technology including establishment of Technologically assisted poultry farms. Farmer Producer Organization (FPOs), Private companies, Individual entrepreneurs, Section 8 companies, Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) are eligible entities. As per the scheme the Eligible Entity can avail up to 90% credit by providing 10% margin money for establishment of aforementioned infrastructures. The Central Government is providing 3% interest subvention and two years moratorium to the Eligible Beneficiaries availing credit under the scheme. Further, the Central Government has also established the Credit Guarantee Trust for providing Credit Guarantee to the MSME beneficiaries for up to 25% of the borrowings.