

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 415

TO BE ANSWERED ON 4th FEBRUARY, 2022

SCHEMES FOR ANIMAL FEED PRODUCERS

415. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA

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

- (a) whether Government has started any new scheme to provide guidance, training, encouragement and protection to packaged animal feed producers during the last three years, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is any system put in place by Government to check the quality of packaged feed and cattle food and also to monitor the expiry date printed on the packets;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, whether Government proposes to make available the packaged feed at lower prices to dairy producers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

a). Under the realigned National Livestock Mission of Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Government of India, which commenced in 2021, training on all aspects of Animal Husbandry Practices including that of animal feed production has been included. States are encouraged to take up the training component including providing of guidance and training required for packaged animal feed producers.

In addition, State Animal Husbandry Departments, National Dairy Development Board, Veterinary Universities and Indian Council of Agricultural Research institutes are providing guidance and training to farmers and entrepreneurs on regular basis to manufacture packaged animal feed products such as pellets, complete feed, area specific mineral mixture etc.

Under the National Livestock Mission scheme, Central Government provides 50% capital subsidy (maximum up to Rs. 50 lakh) to the beneficiaries for setting up of feed/ fodder value addition unit for Hay/Silage/Total Mixed Ration (TMR) preparation, Fodder Block making or Storage facilities for fodder.

Besides, Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF), a flagship scheme of DAHD under which Eligible Entities (EE). i.e. individual entrepreneurs, private companies, FPOs, MSMEs and Section 8 companies are encouraged for the establishment of Animal Feed manufacturing plants and strengthening of existing units/ plant in the categories such as Establishment of Mini, Medium and Large Animal Feed Plant, Total Mixed Ration Block Making Unit, By pass protein unit, Enrich Silage making unit, Feed supplement/ Feed premixes/ Mineral Mixture Plant and Animal Feed Testing Laboratory.

Eligible Entities can avail loan upto 90% of the project cost for establishment of the feed manufacturing unit. Under the scheme, the Central Government provides 3.0% interest subvention with two years moratorium.

b). In general, to check the quality of packaged feed and cattle food, a compliance with BIS standards is practiced. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on 6th October 2021 has issued directive specifying that all commercial feeds intended for meat and milk producing animals have to comply with the BIS specifications (Indian Standard, IS 2052:2009 - Compounded Feeds for Cattle - Specification *fourth revision*) and shall carry the BIS mark which came into effect from 1st January 2022. This BIS specification prescribes the requirements and the methods of sampling and test for compounded cattle feeds for buffaloes, cattle and working bullocks. It is also specified that each bag of cattle feed shall be legibly marked or labeled "Date of manufacture and best before from date of manufacture. BIS has already granted 124 licences to manufacturers for use of BIS Standard Mark on Compounded Feeds for Cattle as per Indian Standard IS 2052:2009.

States such as Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Odisha have Livestock Feed Acts under which law enforcement is done to ensure the quality of packaged animal feed and the expiry date printed on the packets.

c) and d). Animal Husbandry is a state subject. The State Governments have got responsibility to carry out the subsidized scheme for dairy producers. Different States have introduced their own schemes to make available the animal feed at lower prices. Also, the schemes implemented by Central Government will enable increased availability of animal feed at lower rates.
