



## Rashtriya Gokul Mission

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Government has sanctioned funds under **Rashtriya Gokul Mission** for setting up of 21 **Gokul Grams** as Integrated Cattle Development Centres.

As of now, 4 Gokul grams (Varanasi, Mathura, Patiala, and Phora) have been completed and work is under progress in remaining 17 Gokul grams.

- Rashtriya Gokul Mission comprises of two components namely:
  - The national program for bovine breeding and National mission for bovine productivity.
- Underlying objectives of the Mission:
  - **Development and conservation** of indigenous breeds in a focused and scientific manner.
  - Undertake **breed improvement** program for indigenous cattle breeds so as to improve the genetic makeup and increase the stock.
  - Enhance **milk production and productivity**.
  - Distribute **disease free** high genetic merit bulls for natural service.

### **Significant initiatives under Rashtriya Gokul Mission:**

- Awards for encouraging farmers/breeder societies to rear Indigenous breeds of bovines:
  - **Gopal Ratna awards:** for farmers maintaining the best herd of Indigenous Breed and practicing best management practices.
  - **Kamdhenu awards:** for best managed Indigenous herd by Institutions/Trusts/ NGOs/ Gaushalas or best-managed Breeders' societies.

- **Gokul Gram:** The Rashtriya Gokul Mission envisages the establishment of **integrated cattle development centers**, 'Gokul Grams' to develop indigenous breeds including up to 40% nondescript breeds (belonging or appearing to belong to no particular class or kind) with objectives to:
  - Promote **indigenous cattle rearing** and conservation in a scientific manner.
  - Propagate high **genetic merit bulls** of indigenous breeds.
  - Optimize modern **Farm Management practices** and promote Common Resource Management.
  - Utilize **animal waste** in an economical way i.e. Cow Dung, Cow Urine
- **National Kamdhenu Breeding Centre:** (NKBC) is being established as a Centre of Excellence to develop and conserve Indigenous Breeds in a holistic and scientific manner.
- **"E-Pashu Haat"- Nakul Prajnan Bazaar:** An e-market portal connecting breeders and farmers, for quality- disease-free bovine germplasm.
- **Pashu Sanjivni:** An animal wellness program encompassing the provision of **animal health cards** ('Nakul Swasthya Patra') along with UID identification and uploading data on National DataBase.
- **Advanced Reproductive Technology:** Including Assisted Reproductive Technique- In-vitro Fertilization (IVF)/ Multiple Ovulation Embryo Transfer (MOET) and sex-sorted semen technique to improve the availability of disease-free female bovines.
- **National Bovine Genomic Center** for Indigenous Breeds (NBGC-IB) will be established for selection of breeding bulls of high genetic merit at a young age using highly precise gene-based technology.

## Implementing Agency

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- Rashtriya Gokul Mission will be **implemented through the "State Implementing Agency (SIA viz Livestock Development Boards).**
- State Gauseva Ayogs will be given the mandate to sponsor proposals to the SIA's (LDB's) and monitor implementation of the sponsored proposal.
- All Agencies having a role in indigenous cattle development will be the "Participating Agencies" like ICAR, Universities, Colleges, NGO's, Cooperative Societies and Gaushalas.

## Why conservation of Indigenous breeds is the need of the hour?

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- Indigenous bovines are **robust and resilient** and are particularly suited to the climate and environment of their respective breeding tracts and productivity of indigenous breeds is less likely to be impacted by the adversities of **climate change.**
- The milk of indigenous animals is high in **fat and SNF content** (The substances in **milk** other than butterfat and water in the form of casein, lactose, vitamins, and minerals which contribute significantly to the nutritive value of **milk**).