



## Manda Buffalo: Odisha

### Why in News

The **Manda buffalo** has been recognised as the **19<sup>th</sup> unique breed of buffaloes found in India** by the **National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR)**.

- Four breeds of **cattle - Binjharpuri, Motu, Ghumusari and Khariar** - and two breeds of **buffalo - Chilika and Kalahandi** - and one breed of **sheep, Kendrapada**, have already received NBAGR recognition.



### Key Points

- **Manda:**
  - **Habitat:**
    - They are found in the [Eastern Ghats](#) and **plateau of Koraput region of Odisha**.
    - The small, **sturdy buffaloes are used for ploughing** in their native habitat.
  - **Characteristics:**
    - These buffaloes have **ash grey and grey coats** with copper-coloured hair. Some animals are **silver white in colour**.
  - **Speciality of the Breed:**
    - The Manda are **resistant to** parasitic infections, less prone to diseases and can live, produce and reproduce at low or nil input systems.
- **Significance of Recognition:**

- The state and the Centre will **make efforts to conserve this unique buffalo genetic** resource of Odisha and enhance their productivity through breeding strategy.
- The governments will **help in marketing the produce-** milk, curd and ghee at a premium price resulting in the **improvement of the livelihood of the stakeholders** in the native tract.

▪ **NBAGR:**

- [Indian Council of Agricultural Research \(ICAR\)](#) -**National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal (ICAR-NBAGR)** is the nodal agency for the registration of newly identified germplasm of livestock and poultry of the country.
- Its mandate includes Identification, Evaluation, Characterization, Conservation and sustainable Utilization of Livestock and Poultry Genetic Resources.

**Source: TH**

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