# Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana

**1. Background on RKVY**

Concerned by the slow growth in the Agriculture and allied sectors, the National Development Council (NDC), in its meeting held on 29th May, 2007 resolved that a special Additional Central Assistance Scheme (RKVY) be launched. The NDC resolved that agricultural development strategies must be reoriented to meet the needs of farmers and called upon the Central and State governments to evolve a strategy to rejuvenate agriculture. The NDC reaffirmed its commitment to achieve 4 per cent annual growth in the agricultural sector during the 11th plan.

The Department of Agriculture, in compliance of the above resolution and in consultation with the Planning Commission, has prepared the guidelines for the RKVY scheme, to be known as **National Agriculture Development Programme** (RKVY).

**2. Objectives of the programme**

* To incentivize the states that increase their investment in Agriculture and allied sectors
* To provide flexibility and autonomy to the States in planning and executing programmes for agriculture
* To ensure the preparation of Agriculture Plans for the districts and states
* To achieve the goal of reducing the yield gaps in important crops
* To maximize returns to the farmers
* To address the agriculture and allied sectors in an integrated manner

**3. Basic features of RKVY**

* It is a State Plan scheme
* The eligibility of a state for the RKVY is contingent upon the state maintaining or increasing the State Plan expenditure for Agricultural and Allied sectors
* The base line expenditure is determined based on the average expenditure incurred by the State Government during the three years prior to the previous year.
* The preparation of the district and State Agriculture Plans is mandatory
* The scheme encourages convergence with other programmes such as NREGS.
* The pattern of funding is 100% Central Government Grant.
* If the state lowers its investment in the subsequent years, and goes out of the RKVY basket, then the balance resources for completing the projects already commenced would have to be committed by the states.
* It is an incentive scheme, hence allocations are not automatic
* It will integrate agriculture and allied sectors comprehensively
* It will give high levels of flexibility to the states
* Projects with definite time-lines are highly encouraged

**4. List of allied sectors covered under the scheme**

* Crop Husbandry (including Horticulture)
* Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries
* Agricultural Research and Education
* Agricultural Marketing
* Food storage and Warehousing
* Soil and Water Conservation
* Agricultural Financial Institutions
* Other Agriculture Programmes and Cooperation

**5. Areas of focus under RKVY**

* Integrated Development of Food crops, including coarse cereals, minor millets and pulses
* Agriculture Mechanization
* Soil Health and Productivity
* Development of Rain fed Farming Systems
* Integrated Pest Management
* Promoting extension services
* Horticulture
* Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries
* Sericulture
* Study tours of farmers
* Organic and Bio-fertilizers
* Innovative Schemes

***Source :***[***Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana Portal, Government of India***](http://rkvy.nic.in/Index.html)

#### RKVY at a Glance

#### Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department, Assam

**Introduction:**

Assam is situated between 90-96 degrees east longitude and 24-28 degree North latitude. The Kingdom of Bhutan is situated to the north of Assam while Arunachal Pradesh is towards the East. States of Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram are towards the south whereas the western border of Assam has West Bengal and Bangladesh. The state has a total geographical area of 83700 lakh Sq. Km spread across 33 districts. Twenty five percent of the landscape is covered by hills and large part of the state is covered by marshes, bills and rivers. As such land availability for agriculture and habitation is relatively less. Brahmaputra and Barak are predominant valleys comprising the Plains division whereas hills division is comprised of two major districts i.e. Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao.

Human population is 3.11 crores as per 2011 census with a literacy rate of 63.3 percent (54.6% females and 71.3% males) and a sex ratio of 935:1000. More than 90% inhabitants of the state are non-vegetarian, which signifies the market potential for meat and eggs from different livestock and poultry species in addition to milk.

The economy of Assam state is agriculture based wherein 70 percent of the population is engaged in agriculture as a primary occupation and Livestock rearing being a predominant subsystem. Fisheries and sericulture are the other means of livelihood. The Livestock sector through milk, meat and eggs substantially contributes to organic proteins that are easily digestible and rich in essential amino acids; a value addition to the human food basket.

As per the quick estimates of “ Economic Survey” 2013-14, the contribution of agriculture as a whole to GSDP is 17.9 percent while the contributions from Livestock sector to agriculture sector is 5.38 percent and to GSDP is 1.09 percent as per Economic Survey Assam 2014-15. There is a need to specially focus on livestock and fishery sector which are growing as major growth engines in livelihood opportunities to improve family income besides substantially contributing to GDP.

**Vision:**

“Enhance living standards of farmers’ particularly small and landless farmers through improved livestock productivity in terms of milk and entrepreneurship development’.

**Mission:**

* To cover all breedable cattle through Artificial Insemination.
* To cover all breedable cattle under health care programme.
* To grow requisite quantity of fodder.
* To meet the demand of concentrated feed at reasonable rate.
* To build capacity of farmers in management of cattle.
* To make consumer aware of the benefit of clean and hygienic milk.
* To develop proper reporting system

**Main Challenges:**

* Extend efficient Veterinary Service to meet the demand for increased productivity of

Livestock and poultry.

* Extending efficient breeding facilities round the clock.
* Improving and maintaining animal disease control and promotion of heard health and betterment of heard economy.
* Increase fodder production and introduction to forage crops in community land and

preservation of fodder.

* Collaboration with private partners to provide quality service to farmers

 To attain the projected milk production as proposed as 2452 million lit (Sample Survey, Veterinary Assam-2014-15) (Total milk production was 873 million lit, as such a shortfall of 1579 million lit) within a span of 15 years from now, all the breedable cattle are to be brought under the umbrella of Artificial Insemination (A.I.) service. As such the department enhanced the number of A.I. centres from 553 to 1275. However with existing manpower and infrastructure available in the Department; it will not be possible to cover the entire population of breedable cattle in the District. Support under NPCBB has also been availed in this regard which is not sufficient, so the Department seeks additional support from RKVY.

### Objectives of the Department:

1. Provide health coverage to all the livestock and poultry in respect of contagious and non-contagious diseases.
2. Undertake livestock development activities for improving the livestock breeds, products like milk, egg and meat so as to help farmers in improving the GSDP.
3. Implement different welfare schemes in livestock sector through DRDA, ITDA etc.
4. Implement cattle breeding programmes through AACP and ALDA
5. Popularization of fodder cultivation through seed and slips/roots distribution.

#### Livestock position:

**LIVESTOCK POPULATION OF ASSAM (CENSUS -2012):**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sl. No. | Species | Population (In lakhs) |
| 1 | Cattle | 103.07 |
| 2 | Buffalo | 4.35 |
| 3 | Pig | 16.36 |
| 4 | Goat | 61.69 |
| 5 | Sheep | 5.18 |
| 6 | Poultry | 272.16 |

Livestock in the state is highly livelihood-oriented and is generally owned by small and marginal farmers and landless agricultural labourers.

The composition of livestock population of Assam as per 2012 livestock census consists of 54 per cent cattle followed by goat (32 per cent). Buffaloes account for 2.28 per cent while the share of pigs is 8.6 per cent and sheep accounts for 2.71 per cent. Assam does not have any economically important breeds of livestock except the indigenous bullock (2.06 million) on which most of the agricultural operations depend. The indigenous cows are of poor reproductive efficiency. All the breeds of livestock are native to Assam. Efforts are necessary to upgrade the indigenous cattle, goat and pigs through infusion of exotic/Indian breeds of cattle, goat and pigs. As per 2012 Livestock Census there are 3.95 lakh of crossbred cattle (Jersey x local) in Assam, which is a negligible proportion of the total cattle population. The buffaloes in Assam are mostly of swamp type. About 1.7 lakh male buffaloes are used for cultivation of paddy, drawing carts and logs of timber. Assam state has predominantly Swamp buffaloes, which are poor in milk production and are a good source of buffalo meat production but, this has not yet been exploited commercially. Goat is very popular all over the state. It adapts quickly to harsh environment and has high reproductive efficiency, fair milk yield and excellent meat quality.

PRODUCTIVITY (Sample Survey, Veterinary Assam-2016-17):

Total Milk Production: (Million Litre) Egg production : (Lakh Number)

A. Indigenous cattle : 488.00 A. Hen : 3588.00

B. Crossbred cattle : 277.00 B. Duck : 1182.00

C. Buffalo : 120.00 **Total Egg: 4770.00**

**Total Milk : 885.00**

Meat Production: (000 Tones)

 A. Pork : 18.72

 B. Goat meat : 14.60

C. Sheep meat : 1.53

D. Poultry meat : 8.69

**Total Meat : 43.54**

### Considering the above constraints, it is a major uphill task to make the State self-sufficient in food of animal origin.

### Institutions:

### There are 570 Hospitals, 767 Sub centres to render service in maintaining health of the livestock. In addition, there are 18 pig farms, 22 poultry farms, 4 goat farms, 12 livestock farms for making available quality offspring available to the farmers. The Institute of Veterinary Biological, NERDDL and DDL are involved in diagnosis and control of diseases.

**Manpower:**

Out of the total strength of 1003, at present 882 professionals are in position. In case of field functionaries there are 116 vacancies. The ratio between field veterinarian with cattle head in Assam is 1:26000 against recommendation of 1:5000. Further, about 45 villages are to be covered by each veterinarian.

### Ongoing Government initiatives:

### Cross breeding and upgrading: A.I. centres increased from 553 to 1275 for better service delivery. Frozen semen banks are strengthened. State of the art modern FS production Centre is established at Barapetta. Emphasized in maintaining cold chain at all level.

### Breeding Buck and Boar distribution: As sufficient quantities of bucks are not available, A.I. in goat is started in many centres. Considering the potentiality of piggery in the State, the Department set a 200-sow capacity farm under RKVY 2011-12 at Rani, Kamrup. Further another 3 Nucleus pig farms and 7 satellite pig farms are set up under NMPS. The piglets produced from the farm are distributed among farmers for up –gradation of local pigs. Further one more pig farm is being set up under RKVY-RAFTAAR 2019-20 at Bokakhat, Golaghat.

### Fodder production -Mini kit supply/fodder seed: The milk and meat producing livestock and poultry are squarely dependent on different byproducts of agriculture and crop residues. Obviously land use patterns and cropping patterns directly influence the availability of quality fodders and feeds both in terms of quantities and cost effectiveness. Quality nutrition in sufficient quantities is directly proportional to sound livestock health which prevents production losses due to diseases. Currently Assam has a 74% and 55% deficit in green and dry fodder requirements respectively. On an average, nearly 5-6% of the total dry matter comes from cultivated green fodders where as larger quantities of dry matter contribution is from crop residues, common grazing from fallows, cut and carrying of green material from field bunds, forest hay and tree foliage. Therefore there is a need to address farming system based and market led livestock extension models to improve livestock feeding situation and enhance income from livestock based livelihoods. However, free distribution of fodder seed and fertilizer under RKVY has opened up practice and there is gradual increase of demand for fodder seed. On the other hand, there is increase in stall feeding practice due to availability of fodder among the cattle farmers. As a result number of A.I. is going up.

### Disease Diagnosis and Control: The NERDDL of BSL-II standard is capable of diagnosis of existing, exotic and emerging diseases and delivering service in the NE States. The Institute of Veterinary Biological (IVB) is of ISO Standard and produces all required vaccines.

### Poultry production: The 12 of the existing poultry farms are strengthened with support from GOI. These farms are producing and distributing chicks suitable for backyard farming among farmers.

### Extension/technical training to staff and farmers: The “Regional Institute of Livestock Entrepreneurship and Management (RILEM)” is established at Rani with assistance under RKVY would cater the need of skill development of 5000 farmers annually.

* **Status of animal origin food:** In spite of having sizable number of Livestock and poultry, Assam is deficient in all the animal origin food products:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Product | Recommendation | Availability | Shortfall | % shortfall |
| Milk | 76lit/head/year | 32.00lit/head/year | 44.0lit/head/year | 57 |
| Meat | 10.76Kg/head/year | 6.5Kg/head/year | 4.26kg/head/year | 40 |
| Egg | 180 No./head/year | 18 No./head/year | 162 No./head/year | 90 |

### Considering shortfall of various food of animal origin, the Department shifted its focus to single district approach. The present activities are scattered throughout the State neither reflect any progress nor create any impact. As such more and more emphasis is given in the single district approach and all possible inputs are given to the selected district for attaining self-sufficiency in the food of animal origin within a stipulated time. These projects are supported by pulling resources from State Plan, APART, ACA, RIDF, RKVY etc.

### Concerns in livestock production:

### 1. Huge deficits in green and dry fodder requirement of animals.

### 2. Recurrent incidence of diseases and emerging diseases.

### 3. Large proportion of low productive cattle and buffaloes (only 4% CB cattle)

### 4. Monitoring breeding operations and fertility management

### 5. Managing crossbred females for inter-se mating and crossbred bull production

### 6. Inbreeding and slaughter at tender age among sheep/goats

### 7. Creating nucleus herds of goats to produce potential breeding bucks for different agro-eco zones

### 8. Increased role of middlemen in milk and meat marketing

### 9. Lack of focus on producer focused entrepreneurships

10. High incidence of parasitic disease mostly in ruminants

### Constraints in livestock sector:

The major constraints identified as hindrances in development of animal husbandry sector in Assam are listed below:

1. Poor genetic quality in terms of productivity of all animals and birds.
2. Small land holdings, inadequate land for fodder production and high animal density and crippling availability of livestock feeding resources.
3. Poor linkage among the departments and institutions.
4. Poor linkage and complementary mechanisms among Assam Agricultural university, ICAR institutions in state and other Central and state institutions.
5. Lack of shared goals and feedback systems from different agencies resulting in poor field adaptive research focus and planning for development.

 6. In-adequate planning, monitoring and assessment of field activities and training strategies to upscale staff competencies.

#### Gist of recommendations of the Planning commission (A.H. Advisory committee):

1. Shift focus from production in state farms to farmer centered production through producers’

 groups like SHG etc.

1. Priority on productivity enhancement in place of increased production

Focus on productivity enhancement from pigs, cattle, goats and backyard poultry using suitable breeds and appropriate technologies

1. Trigger functions of regional disease diagnostic laboratory to fully function and cater to the

 needs of NE region

1. Strengthen Commercial livestock feed production facilities to produce high quality

 concentrate feed to achieve higher livestock production levels

1. Livestock and dairy farms being important components of the World Bank Agriculture

 competitiveness components, Government of Assam has to streamline systems and procedures to initiate measures for utilizing full potential of this project.

In order to comply with the recommendations of Animal Husbandry Advisory Committee of the Planning Commission of India, the entire service delivery machinery in the Government of Assam in Livestock sector has redefined its mandate from an action implementation mode to a comprehensive project management mode. Various activities are implemented throughout the State with funding support from Government of India, State Budget, AACP etc but no visible impact has so far been noticed as activities are spread over the entire State. Further due to limitation of fund it is also not possible to cover the whole State with all the activities.

As such, the Department contemplated district approach as a pilot district to make self-sufficient in term of milk, meat and egg. Under ACA, the Sonitpur District and Barpeta District under State Plan is taken up for attaining self-sufficiency in milk production. Nagaon and Kamrup Districts are selected for attaining self-sufficiency in milk and meat respectively under AACP-AF and RKVY.

**BARPETA DISTRICT:** The present milk production is 550.00 lakh liters against requirement of 1245.0 lakhs lit. To attain self-sufficiency in milk, the Department prepared a long term proposal for implantation under the State plan. As per the proposal, the number of A.I. centres would be increased from 46 to 171 so that all the cattle are covered under A.I. programme. Necessary logistics are made available from NPCBB and RKVY. Further other support like fodder production though incorporated under the project, it is not found sufficient, so additional support to raise fodder is incorporated under RKVY.

**NAGAON DISTRICT:** The present milk production in the District is 371.58 lakhs litres against requirement of 2046.0 lakhs litres. A.I. service is rendered through 96 centres but to cover all the breedable cattle of the district another 150 centres would be needed. To achieve the goal of attaining self-sufficiency in milk, the Department prepared a comprehensive plan of 15 years duration. The project would be supported by AACP-AF for period of three years. Though, almost all the support would be made available in the project for 150 centres, additional support to maintain the existing 96 centres would be needed from RKVY. Further, it is proposed to support only 150 bigha of land for fodder cultivation as a demo but additional support for the rest of the farmers land would be needed from RKVY.

**Meat production:** Considering the importance of meat in the State, the department has prepared a comprehensive plan for attainment of self-sufficiency in meat. Accordingly the requirement of meat would be achieved through APART and RKVY.