

**Sustainable Livestock Breeding through Gomitras
in Rural Areas
Under RKVY**

Submitted By:

Department of Fisheries & ARD, Govt. of Odisha

Bhubaneswar

Sustainable Livestock Breeding through Gomitras in Rural Areas

Background:

Gomitras are unemployed educated rural youths who are engaged primarily for artificial insemination (AI) in addition to first aid treatment of cattle through the State Implementing Agency (SIA), Orissa Livestock Resources Development Society (OLRDS). These 'Go-mitra' are also called as Private AI Workers and are currently working in the non represented areas of A.H. Department and other agencies like OMFED.

It is anticipated that about 80% of the total adult females among the cattle and buffaloes would be covered under the organized breeding (both by artificial insemination and natural service), which will increase the present coverage to more than three times the present coverage. Engagement of private mobile AI service providers for doorstep delivery of AI, and conversion of existing stationery government centers into mobile centers are part of the strategies for achievement of the above mentioned objectives under National Project for Cattle & Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB) funded by Govt. of India. Keeping the facts in mind educated youths were selected and placed in different districts for rendering the required services to the dairy farmers. After being selected by a block level selection committee and approved by the concerned Collector-cum-District Magistrate, they were trained in departmental training centers on breeding and first aids for four months. A kit for each Gomitra was being provided to provide AI and first aid services to the animal rearers.

The district wise positioning of Gomitras is as follows-

Sl. No.	Name of the District	No. of Gomitras in position
1	Angul	61
2	Bolangir	41
3	Balasore	96
4	Bargarh	62
5	Bhadrak	79

6	Boudh	19
7	Cuttack	89
8	Deogarh	16
9	Dhenkanal	66
10	Gajapati	25
11	Ganjam	96
12	Jagatsinghpur	91
13	Jajpur	110
14	Jharsuguda	22
15	Kalahandi	67
16	Kandhamal	27
17	Kendrapara	107
18	Keonjhar	54
19	Khurda	66
20	Koraput	40
21	Malkangiri	10
22	Mayurbhanj	134
23	Nawarangpur	29
24	Nayagarh	40
25	Nuapara	29
26	Puri	92
27	Rayagada	15
28	Sambalpur	34
29	Sonepur	21
30	Sundargarh	60
	Total :	1698

It is observed that the performance of Gomitras vary from district to district. Due to several reasons like the type of livestock resources available, preference of farmers, geographical area and marketing facility of livestock products etc. the expected outcome from these Gomitras is not achieved. Gomitras working in coastal districts perform better in comparison to those of in interior districts. Almost all of them depend primarily upon the earnings they incur by collecting service charges from the farmers which vary from place to place according to the situations.

However, the contribution of these private AI workers for genetic improvement of cattle in our State is encouraging. The AI achieved by them shows a steady increase every year. Nearly three lakhs AI have been done by these Gomitras since inception and more than one lakh improved cattle have been produced in the state.

Various supports have been provided by the department for sustenance of these Gomitras through refresher trainings, exposure visits to strengthen their knowledge for optimum delivery of services. Tampering grants had also been provided to each of them under NPCBB during initial periods of their actions.

The evaluation report on Gomitras by NABARD reveals that steps are to be taken by the concerned states for sustenance of the Gomitras. In some States like West Bengal the performance of these private AI workers is appreciable. States like Punjab, Andhra Pradesh and Chhatishgarh do provide performance linked incentives in form of cash for the encouragement and sustainability of these private AI workers. This would also support for generating sustainable employment in AH service sector.

Project Objective

The overarching objective of the project is

“To provide performance linked incentives to Gomitras so as to ensure sustainable cattle breeding services to the dairy farmers at doorstep and generation of assured employment in AH sector”.

Work Plan

- Out of the 1698 positioned in different districts, currently 1650 are working in the field.
- The work of the Gomitras will be supervised properly by the concerned field officials from time to time for regular availability of inputs like LN2, AI straw, sheath etc. and pregnancy diagnosis and calves born.
- They will be assigned various tasks whenever required like maintenance of records, timely reporting, lifting vaccines, helping in conducting health camps, vaccination, organizing farmers’ trainings, raising of green fodder etc.
- Follow up AI performed by the Gomitras are to be made by the concerned VAS/AVAS

- Each Gomitra will be provided with some first aid medicine worth of Rs.5000/- every year. This will include medicines towards deworming, feed supplements, first aid etc.
- Rs. 1000/- will be paid to each Gomitra as an aid for them who are working at present in different districts for rendering extension services to the farmers.
- An additional work linked incentive of Rs. 500/- for each successful progeny born over above 4 progenies limiting to maximum amount of Rs. 5000/- per month.
- Gomitras will act as an extension change agent at community level and they will be given Rs. 1000/- per month.
- The support in form of incentive will be provided for three years.

Financial Outlay

Number of Gomitras working -1650

Rs. In Lakhs

Sl No	Particulars	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Total
1	Work linked incentives for each calf born over 4 calves per month @Rs. 500/- per calf	80.00	100.00	120.00	300.00
2	First Aid Medicines Rs.5000/- per year	82.50	82.50	82.50	247.50
3	Supervision, Monitoring & Evaluation @ 2%	3.00	4.00	5.00	12.00
4	Subsistence Allowance for dissemination of AH message Rs. 1000/- per month	180.00	180	180	540.00
	Total	345.50	366.50	387.50	1099.5

Output

- i. The coverage breedable population of the state will increase with increase in number of AIs done by Gomitras. It is expected that the total number of AI performed by the Gomitras will increase from 1.14 lakh at the present rate to 1.5 lakhs by 2015.
- ii. Gomitras will be motivated to perform 10% additional AI per month, which will result approximately 5000 more calves per annum.
- iii. The low performing private AI workers will be encouraged to perform better.

- iv. Gomitras will get gainful employment through incentivizing them in terms of providing common medicines for livestock first aid at the doorstep of the farmers in 1500 gram panchayats.
- v. Gomitras will promote dairy, sheep, goat farming through credit linkage with banks