

Major Achievements of Sheep/Goat sector during the FY 2020-21

On an average J&K is consuming 500 to 600 lac Kgs of mutton every year with local production of about 300 to 350 lac Kgs which makes the UT dependent on imports from neighboring states. J&K every year imports around 150 to 300 lac Kgs of mutton thereby creating huge avenues for investment in the sector & creation of employment opportunities.

i. Integrated Sheep Development Scheme (ISDS) 2020-21:

J&K Government launched Integrated Sheep Development Program during 2020-21 under UT Capex with an aim to supplement mutton production & build entrepreneurship in the sector. Under the scheme sheep/goat units are established on participatory mode wherein livestock is given free of cost to the beneficiaries & thereafter the given livestock is retrieved in a phased manner over a period of 5 years from the beneficiary & utilized for establishment of fresh units. The scheme is innovative & self sustaining. During the current FY the Department established 882 (10 sheep units) and 201 (25 sheep units) at a cost of ₹ 11.25 crore creating a direct employment for 1083 people.

ii. Besides above units, the Department also established 290 sheep/goat units under other CSS/UT sector schemes creating employment for another 290 people.

iii. More than 300 pure merino lamb births were recorded from the elite merino sheep imported from Australia. Additionally, 300 more lambs were born by crossing Australian sheep with Kashmir Merino.

- iv. Department purchased & distributed 2300 elite rams/bucks under CSS-NLM for genetic up gradation of livestock in private sector, besides around 1000 rams/bucks were produced from Government farms of the UT & distributed to livestock farmers for genetic up gradation of their livestock.