

PRESS RELEASE

The 20th Quinquennial Livestock census started off amidst much fan fare throughout the state today as per the directions of Government of India.

The Animal Husbandry Department is committed to the agenda for sustainable development adopted by the United Nations General Assembly for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals of No poverty, Zero Hunger, Good health and well being, Gender equality and Climate Action through implementation of various programmes and policies of the Department. Livestock census is important for the formulation of policies and schemes for the benefit of livestock farmers. Various welfare schemes, growth and development oriented schemes are planned and implemented based on the available livestock population and hence from the perspective of economic improvement of rural poor undertaking census enumeration is vital.

Livestock Census is conducted once in 5 years by Government of India. The first livestock census was conducted during 1919 and since then, 19 census enumerations have been conducted. The 19th Livestock Census was carried out during 2012. There are around 2.27 crore livestock and 11.74 crore poultry in the State as per 19th Livestock Census.

The 20th Livestock Census is undertaken from 01.10.2018 to 31.12.2018 for a period of 90 days. The actual door to door enumeration is done using Tablet computers by persons with veterinary background designated by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Tamil Nadu. For this purpose 3,887 Enumerators, 795 Supervisors and 130

Scrutiny officers are engaged. All the personnel have undergone training on relevant procedures for the purpose of conducting error-free enumeration.

The previous census operations were conducted manually by enumerators who were trained for the work. The data were collected in the formats manually which were then subsequently compiled and tabulated using computers and uploaded for further processing. This process consumed time and was error prone since converting data into digital format was demanding and difficult. To facilitate easy compilation of data, Tablet computers have been provided along with internet connectivity and power back up units for the present enumeration work.

The data collected by the Enumerators will be scrutinized by the Supervisors and uploaded directly to the NIC server. Since the whole process is made online, data compilation, arriving at the final results and analysis can be done faster while minimising errors in tabulation when compared to the conventional procedure of manual enumeration.

Extensive Information Education and Communication (IEC) campaign is being undertaken to ensure farmers' participation in the programme as well as achieving accuracy in data to the extent possible. The entire activities are constantly monitored by Government of Tamil Nadu and GOI at all levels.

The Director of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Thiru.A. Gnanasekaran, I.A.S., presided over the function marking the commencement of enumeration work under 20th Quinquennial livestock census at Thandalkalany revenue village in Ponneri Taluk of Thiruvallur district on 01.10.2018.

Dr.K. Kubendiran, Regional Joint Director of Animal Husbandry (i/c), Thiruvallur welcomed the gathering. Thiru.K. Gopal, I.A.S., Principal Secretary to Government, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department, had detailed the functioning of the Department and stressed the importance of livestock census. Tmt. Mageshwari Ravikumar, I.A.S., District Collector, Thiruvallur requested the public to co-operate with the department officials in providing accurate information for census. During the function, Hon'ble Minister for Rural Industries Department, Thiru.P. Benjamin, started the Kalnadai Padhukappu Thittam camp and gave prizes to best heifer calves and greeted the occasion. Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Official language and Tamil Culture Department, Thiru.K. Pandiyarajan, distributed mineral mixture to needy livestock and greeted the function. Hon'ble Minister for Animal Husbandry Thiru. Udumalai K. Radhakrishnan, inaugurated the 20th Livestock census and distributed the tablet computers for the Enumerators. The Hon'ble Minister highlighted the importance being given by the government to the Animal Husbandry sector. Dr. Venugopal, Member of Parliament, Thiruvallur and Thiru.V. Alexander, M.L.A, Ambattur, also participated in the function. With vote of thanks by Dr.T. Gopu, Assistant Director of Animal Husbandry, Ambattur the function came to an end.

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