



Sex Sorted Semen Facility at Purnea

Why in News?

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated a **state-of-the-art Sex Sorted Semen facility** at the Semen Station in **Purnea, Bihar**.

Key Points

- **About:** The Sex Sorted Semen facility, developed under the [Rashtriya Gokul Mission](#) with central assistance of ₹10 crore, aims to transform the [dairy sector](#) with a production capacity of 5 lakh doses per year.
- **Indigenous Technology:** The *Gausort* technology, launched by the Prime Minister on 5th October 2024, is a critical component of this facility.
 - It enables the sorting of semen to produce female calves with 90% accuracy, which is pivotal in reducing economic burdens on dairy farmers.
- **Significance:**
 - The facility ensures that Sex Sorted Semen is available at reasonable rates to farmers, especially in the Eastern and North-Eastern regions, aligning with the '[Make in India](#)' and '[Atmanirbhar Bharat](#)' initiatives.
 - The technology **boosts the production of female calves**, crucial for dairy farming, offering **direct economic benefits to farmers**, particularly small, marginal, and landless laborers involved in dairying.
- **Purnea Semen Station:**
 - Established with a **Central assistance of Rs. 84.27 crores**, the Purnea station is one of the **largest government-owned** semen stations in India and the first of its kind for the Eastern and North-Eastern states.
 - The station is currently producing **50 lakh doses per annum**, significantly contributing to the growth of the dairy industry in the region.

Rashtriya Gokul Mission

- **About:** The RGM, launched in 2014 by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, aims to develop and conserve indigenous bovine breeds and is implemented by the **Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying**.
 - The mission continues as part of the [Rashtriya Pashudhan Vikas Yojna](#) for the period **2021 to 2026** with a budget outlay of Rs. 2400 crore.
- **Need:** The decline of indigenous bovine breeds, like **Punganur**(Andhra Pradesh), threatens valuable genetic resources. These breeds are **climate-resilient, produce high-quality milk, and adapt well to local environments**, highlighting the need for preservation efforts.
- **Objectives:** RGM aims to boost bovine productivity, promote high-quality breeding, and strengthen **Artificial Insemination (AI)** services.
 - AI is a **reproductive technology** that involves manually introducing sperm into a female's reproductive tract to achieve pregnancy.
- **Components of RGM:**
 - **High Genetic Merit:** Enhances **genetic merit through bull production** via **progeny testing, Pedigree Selection, [genomic selection](#), and [germplasm import](#)**.

- It strengthens **semen stations**, implements **in vitro fertilization (IVF) technology for assured pregnancies**, and sets up breed multiplication farms to scale genetic improvement in livestock.
- **Artificial Insemination Network:** Promotes establishment of **Multi-Purpose Artificial Insemination Technicians in Rural India (MAITRIs)** to expand nationwide AI access.
 - RGM implements the **National Digital Livestock Mission** to improve data management and service delivery.
- **Conservation of Indigenous Breeds:** Support for **Gaushalas** for the care and preservation of indigenous cattle.
- **Skill Development and Awareness:** Focuses on skill development through **capacity-building programs, raising farmer awareness**, and supporting **research and innovation** in bovine breeding.
- **Funding Pattern:** The components of the RGM are largely funded by a **100% grant-in-aid basis**, with some specific components involving partial subsidies (e.g., IVF pregnancies, sex sorted semen, breed multiplication farms).

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/sex-sorted-semen-facility-at-purnea>

