संघ राज्य प्रशासन, लद्दाख

सहकारी वभिाग

सत्यमेव जयते

THE ADMINISTRATION OF UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH

COOPERATIVE DEPARTMENT

F. No. M/2153/2026-DRC LEH SECTION (C. No. 44043)

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यूटी सचविालय, लेह /UT Secretariat, Leh

Dated: 10.09.2026

Notification

Ladakh, the 10th of September, 2026

Approval of the Lieutenant Governor, Union territory of Ladakh, is hereby conveyed for the "**Livestock Development Incentive Policy for Sustainable Pashmina Production"**.

The details of the Policy are as appended to this notification.

By order of the Lieutenant Governor, Union territory of Ladakh.

Sd/-
(Bhanu Prabha) IAS,
Administrative Secretary,
Cooperative Department, UT of Ladakh.

Copy to the:-

1. All Administrative Secretaries, UT of Ladakh.
2. Director General of Police, UT of Ladakh.
3. Joint Secretary (JKL Division), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
4. Secretary to the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, UT of Ladakh.
5. All Deputy Commissioners, UT of Ladakh.
6. All Heads of the Departments, UT of Ladakh.
7. Additional Registrar, Cooperative Department, UT of Ladakh.
8. Joint Director, Information, UT of Ladakh, with the request to give wide publicity to the Notification in the print and electronic media.
9. Technical Director, NIC, Ladakh with the request for uploading the Notification on the official website/Gazette.
10. OSD to the Chief Secretary, UT of Ladakh, for information of the Chief Secretary.
11. Superintendent, Archives, Archaeology & Museums.
12. PA to the Administrative Secretary, Cooperative Department for information of the Administrative Secretary.
13. Office record/e-file (C. No. 44043).

(Dr. Mohammad Usman Khan) JKAS,
Additional Secretary,
Cooperative Department, UT of Ladakh.
Dated:10.09.2026

"Livestock Development Incentive Policy for Sustainable Pashmina Production"

1. Preamble

The Union Territory of Ladakh is globally renowned for producing the finest quality Pashmina, derived from the indigenous Changthangi Pashmina goat reared by the nomadic Changpa pastoral communities inhabiting the high-altitude Changthang region. Pashmina production is not merely an economic activity but an integral component of Ladakh's cultural heritage, ecological balance and traditional pastoral way of life. The sector provides sustainable livelihoods to thousands of nomadic households and contributes significantly to the rural economy of the Union Territory.

The long-term sustainability and competitiveness of the Pashmina sector depend upon the health, productivity and genetic quality of the Changthangi Pashmina goat. However, in recent years, rising costs of livestock rearing, shrinking grazing resources, harsh climatic conditions and fluctuating market returns have adversely affected the profitability of pastoralism. Consequently, many herders have been compelled to reduce investment in balanced nutrition, supplementary feeding, veterinary care, disease prevention, breeding management and other essential livestock development practices. These constraints have affected herd health, reduced productivity, increased mortality, lowered fibre quality and weakened the economic viability of Pashmina production.

Recognizing these challenges, the Administration of the Union Territory of Ladakh is committed to revitalizing the Pashmina sector through a comprehensive livestock development approach that incentivizes sustainable pastoral practices, strengthens cooperative institutions and enhances the income security of Pashmina-producing households. The UT Administration also recognizes that increasing the production of premium-quality Pashmina requires sustained investment in livestock development rather than support limited solely to fibre procurement.

This Policy seeks to encourage Pashmina herders to invest in the overall health, nutrition and productivity of their livestock by providing an additional financial incentive linked to the quantity and quality of Pashmina marketed through the cooperative procurement system. The incentive is intended to enable pastoral households to improve feeding practices, veterinary care, breeding management, livestock shelters, disease prevention and other critical inputs that directly contribute to healthier herds, higher fibre yield and superior Pashmina quality.

The Policy further aims to strengthen the cooperative movement by making the incentive available only to genuine Pashmina goat herders who are registered members of recognised Cooperative Societies and who market their entire Pashmina produce through the cooperative procurement network. This approach will ensure transparency, traceability, fair price discovery and equitable distribution of UT Administration assistance while reinforcing the role of cooperatives as institutions for producer welfare and rural development.

The overarching objective of this Policy is to make Pashmina goat rearing a more remunerative, resilient and sustainable livelihood, enhance the incomes of Changpa pastoral communities, increase the population of healthy Pashmina goats, improve the quantity and quality of Ladakh Pashmina and establish the Union Territory of Ladakh as the world's leading producer of ethically sourced, premium-quality Pashmina.

2. Vision

To establish the Union Territory of Ladakh as the global leader in the production of premium-quality, ethically sourced and sustainably produced Pashmina by creating a resilient, prosperous and climate-resilient pastoral economy founded on healthy livestock, scientific herd management, strong cooperative institutions and enhanced livelihoods of the Changpa pastoral communities.

The Policy envisions transforming Pashmina goat rearing into a remunerative, dignified and sustainable profession that attracts future generations while conserving the unique pastoral heritage and fragile ecosystem of the Changthang region.

3. Mission

The Mission of this Policy is to incentivise investment in livestock development by providing financial assistance linked to the quality and quantity of Pashmina procured through the cooperative system, thereby enabling pastoral households to improve animal nutrition, veterinary care, breeding, shelter and scientific herd management.

The Policy seeks to enhance the productivity, health and reproductive performance of the indigenous Changthangi Pashmina goat, increase the production of high-quality Pashmina, strengthen cooperative institutions, improve producer incomes and create a transparent and traceable value chain that ensures sustainable growth of the Pashmina sector.

The Mission also aims to support the Administration's objective of substantially increasing the population of healthy Pashmina goats over the next three years while ensuring that the benefits of UT Administration assistance reach genuine pastoral households engaged in cooperative-based Pashmina production.

4. Background and Rationale

The Union Territory of Ladakh is internationally recognised for producing the world's finest Pashmina fibre, obtained from the indigenous Changthangi Pashmina goat reared by the nomadic Changpa pastoral communities of the Changthang region. Pashmina production is one of the most significant traditional economic activities of Ladakh and forms the backbone of the livelihoods of thousands of pastoral households living in one of the most challenging high-altitude ecosystems in the world.

The quality, quantity and market value of Ladakh Pashmina are intrinsically linked to the health, nutrition and genetic potential of the Changthangi goat. Healthy animals produce superior fibre, exhibit higher reproductive efficiency and possess greater resilience to the harsh climatic conditions of the region. Consequently, sustained investment in livestock development is fundamental to improving both the productivity of the herds and the economic returns to pastoral households.

However, the cost of maintaining Pashmina goats has increased considerably in recent years due to rising prices of supplementary feed, veterinary medicines, transportation, labour and other essential inputs. In response to these economic pressures, many herders have reduced expenditure on balanced nutrition, preventive healthcare, vaccination, breeding management, shelter improvement and other scientific livestock management practices. These compromises have adversely affected animal health, kidding rates, fibre quality, productivity and the overall sustainability of the pastoral economy.

At the same time, the Changthang region faces additional challenges arising from climate variability, prolonged winters, degradation of grazing resources, increased incidence of livestock diseases and changing socio-economic aspirations among younger generations. These factors pose a significant risk to the long-term sustainability of traditional pastoralism and the continued production of high-quality Pashmina.

Recognising these challenges, the Administration of the Union Territory of Ladakh has identified the development of the Pashmina sector as a strategic priority for strengthening rural livelihoods, preserving the unique pastoral culture of Changthang and enhancing the global competitiveness of Ladakh Pashmina. The Administration has also set the objective of substantially increasing the

population of healthy Pashmina goats over the coming years while simultaneously improving fibre quality and increasing the overall production of Pashmina.

The existing procurement system provides a remunerative price for raw Pashmina; however, it does not adequately incentivise pastoral households to make sustained investments in livestock development. There is, therefore, a need to complement the procurement mechanism with a targeted incentive that directly encourages expenditure on animal nutrition, veterinary care, scientific breeding, disease prevention, shelter development and other measures that improve herd productivity and long-term sustainability.

This Policy addresses that gap by introducing a **25% Additional Top-up Incentive** over and above the UT Administration-notified procurement price of Pashmina. The incentive shall be calculated on the basis of the notified procurement price, the certified quantity and the quality of Pashmina sold by eligible herders through recognised Cooperative Societies. The additional financial assistance shall be transferred directly to the bank accounts of eligible beneficiaries through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mechanism, ensuring transparency, efficiency and timely delivery of benefits.

To strengthen the cooperative movement and ensure complete traceability of Ladakh Pashmina, the benefits under this Policy shall be restricted to genuine Pashmina goat herders who are registered members of recognised Cooperative Societies affiliated with the Apex Cooperative Society and who market their entire annual Pashmina production exclusively through the cooperative procurement System.

By linking UT Administration support with cooperative procurement and encouraging reinvestment in livestock development, the Policy seeks to improve herd health, increase the population of Pashmina goats, enhance fibre quality, raise household incomes and establish a sustainable, transparent and globally competitive Pashmina value chain. The Policy thus represents a strategic investment in the future of the Changpa pastoral communities and the long-term growth of the Pashmina sector in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

5. Policy Statement

The Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh hereby adopts the **Livestock Development Incentive Policy for Sustainable Pashmina Production** with the objective of promoting sustainable growth of the Pashmina sector through strategic investment in livestock development and cooperative-led procurement.

The Policy seeks to encourage eligible Pashmina goat herders to invest in improved nutrition, veterinary care, scientific breeding, preventive healthcare, shelter development and other livestock management practices by providing an **Additional Top-up Incentive equivalent to 25% of the UT Administration-notified procurement value of raw Pashmina** procured through recognised Cooperative Societies.

The incentive shall be linked to the quantity and quality of Pashmina procured and shall be credited directly to the bank accounts of eligible beneficiaries through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mechanism. The Policy aims to increase the population of healthy Pashmina goats, improve fibre quality and productivity, enhance pastoral incomes, strengthen cooperative institutions and ensure the long-term sustainability and global competitiveness of the Pashmina sector in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

6. Guiding Principles

Implementation of the Policy shall be guided by the following principles:

6.1 Livestock-Centric Development

UT Administration assistance shall primarily promote investment in the health, nutrition, breeding, welfare and productivity of the Changthangi Pashmina goat, recognising livestock as the principal productive asset of pastoral households.

6.2 Producer Welfare

The Policy shall ensure that the benefits of UT Administration assistance accrue directly to genuine Pashmina-producing households, thereby improving their income security and livelihood resilience.

6.3 Cooperative-Led Development

The cooperative movement shall constitute the primary institutional mechanism for procurement, quality assessment, marketing, extension services and implementation of the Policy.

6.4 Scientific Livestock Management

The Policy shall promote adoption of scientific animal husbandry practices, including balanced nutrition, preventive healthcare, vaccination, disease surveillance, genetic improvement and scientific breeding.

6.5 Quality Enhancement

Financial incentives shall encourage production of superior-quality Pashmina by rewarding better herd management and adherence to quality standards.

6.6 Transparency and Accountability

Procurement, quality grading, valuation and payment of incentives shall be undertaken through transparent procedures supported by proper documentation, digital records and Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

6.7 Traceability

The Policy shall promote complete traceability of Ladakh Pashmina through cooperative procurement, systematic record keeping and quality certification.

6.8 Sustainability

Implementation shall promote environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient pastoral practices while ensuring conservation of the fragile ecosystem of the Changthang region.

6.9 Inclusive Growth

The Policy shall ensure equitable participation of all eligible pastoral households, with particular emphasis on strengthening livelihoods, encouraging youth participation and supporting women engaged in Pashmina production and livestock management.

6.10 Outcome-Based Incentives

UT Administration support shall encourage measurable improvements in livestock health, herd productivity, fibre quality and producer incomes, rather than serving solely as a procurement subsidy.

7. Objectives

The objectives of the Policy are to:



a) Make Pashmina goat rearing a more remunerative, sustainable and attractive livelihood for the Changpa pastoral communities.

b) Encourage pastoral households to invest in the health, nutrition, breeding, welfare and scientific management of their livestock.

c) Increase the population of healthy Changthangi Pashmina goats in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

d) Improve the quantity, quality and market value of raw Pashmina produced in the Changthang region.

e) Enhance household incomes by providing an Additional Top-up Incentive over and above the UT Administration-notified procurement price.

f) Promote scientific livestock management practices, including balanced feeding, preventive healthcare, vaccination, disease control and genetic improvement.

g) Strengthen the cooperative procurement system and encourage all Pashmina producers to market their produce through recognised Cooperative Societies.

h) Ensure complete traceability, transparency and quality assurance in the procurement and marketing of Ladakh Pashmina.

i) Encourage greater participation of young pastoralists in traditional Pashmina goat rearing by improving its economic viability.

j) Support the Administration's objective of increasing Pashmina production while preserving the unique pastoral heritage and ecological sustainability of the Changthang region.

8. Scope

The Policy shall apply to all eligible Pashmina goat herders residing in the Union Territory of Ladakh who are engaged in the production and sale of raw Pashmina through the recognised cooperative procurement system.

The Policy shall cover:

i. Procurement of raw Pashmina through recognised Primary Cooperative Societies affiliated with the Apex Cooperative Society.

ii. Financial incentives linked to the quantity and quality of Pashmina procured.

iii. Promotion of scientific livestock development practices.

iv. Capacity building and awareness programmes for pastoral households.

v. Strengthening of cooperative institutions involved in procurement, grading and marketing.

vi. Monitoring and evaluation of livestock development outcomes.

9. Definitions

For the purposes of this Policy, unless the context otherwise requires:

9.1 "Pashmina" means raw fibre obtained from the indigenous Changthangi Pashmina goat.

9.2 "Changthangi Pashmina Goat" means the indigenous breed of goat reared in the Changthang region and recognised for producing fine Pashmina fibre.

9.3 "Herder" or "Producer" means a Bonafide pastoral household engaged in rearing Changthangi Pashmina goats within the Union Territory of Ladakh.

9.4 "Primary Cooperative Society" means a registered Pashmina Cooperative Society recognised by the UT Administration and affiliated with the Apex Cooperative Society.

9.5 "Apex Cooperative Society" means the UT Administration-recognised apex cooperative institution responsible for procurement, aggregation, marketing and promotion of Pashmina in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

9.6 "UT Administration-notified Procurement Price" means the procurement price for raw Pashmina notified by the UT Administration from time to time.

9.7 "Additional Top-up Incentive" means the financial assistance equal to twenty-five per cent (25%) of the eligible procurement value payable under this Policy.

9.8 "Eligible Procurement Value" means the value of raw Pashmina calculated on the basis of the UT Administration-notified procurement price, certified quantity and approved quality grade.

9.9 "Quality Grade" means the grade assigned to raw Pashmina in accordance with quality parameters notified by the UT Administration.

9.10 "Procurement Season" means the period notified by the UT Administration during which procurement of raw Pashmina is undertaken.

9.11 "Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)" means electronic transfer of financial assistance directly into the beneficiary's bank account.

9.12 "Competent Authority" means the Administrative Department or any authority authorised by the UT Administration to administer this Policy.

9.13 "Eligible Herder" means the local Ladakh domiciled herder, who is a registered member of the Co-operative society.

9.14 "HLG" means the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Ladakh.

9.15 "UT Administration" means the Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh, as defined in section 58 of the Jammu & Kashmir Re-organisation Act, 2019 (Act No. 34 of 2019).

10. Applicability

This Policy shall be applicable throughout the Union Territory of Ladakh and shall apply to all procurement of raw Pashmina undertaken through recognised Cooperative Societies under the UT Administration-approved procurement system.

The provisions of this Policy shall be applicable only to procurement undertaken during the period of three years for which the Policy remains in force.

11. Eligibility

A beneficiary shall be eligible to receive the Additional Top-up Incentive only if all the following conditions are fulfilled:

i. The beneficiary is a bona fide resident of the Union Territory of Ladakh and is engaged in Pashmina goat rearing.

ii. The beneficiary is a registered and active member of a recognised Primary Pashmina Cooperative Society affiliated with the Apex Cooperative Society.

iii. The beneficiary markets and sells the entire annual production of raw Pashmina exclusively through the recognised Cooperative Society.

iv. The quantity and quality of Pashmina sold have been verified, graded and certified in accordance with the procedures prescribed by the UT Administration.

v. The beneficiary possesses a valid bank account linked for Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

vi. The beneficiary complies with livestock verification, procurement and record-maintenance requirements prescribed under this Policy.

vii. The beneficiary undertakes to utilise the incentive primarily for improving livestock health, nutrition, breeding, veterinary care, shelter and other approved livestock development activities.

12. Livestock Development Plan

12.1 Preparation of Livestock Development Plan

Every recognised Primary Pashmina Cooperative Society shall prepare an Annual Livestock Development Plan (LDP) for its member herders. The Plan shall serve as the principal planning and monitoring document for implementation of this Policy and shall be prepared in consultation with the Cooperative Department and the Sheep Husbandry Department.

The Livestock Development Plan shall assess the existing status of livestock resources, identify development needs, prescribe interventions for improving herd productivity and establish measurable annual targets for livestock development.

12.2 Components of the Livestock Development Plan

The Livestock Development Plan shall, inter alia, include:

a) Baseline livestock census of member households.

b) Herd expansion targets.

c) Breeding and genetic improvement programme.

d) Nutrition and supplementary feeding strategy.

e) Vaccination and disease prevention calendar.

f) Veterinary healthcare and emergency response mechanism.

g) Mortality reduction strategy.

h) Winter fodder and feed reserve plan.

i) Livestock shelter improvement measures.

j) Capacity-building and awareness programmes for herders.

k) Annual procurement projections.

l) Livestock insurance and risk mitigation measures.

m) Digital record maintenance and traceability.

12.3 Approval and Review

The Livestock Development Plan shall be approved by the Cooperative Department in consultation with the Sheep Husbandry Department and shall be reviewed annually based on the performance of each Cooperative Society.

13. Incentive Structure

13.1 Nature of Incentive

The UT Administration shall provide an **Additional Top-up Incentive** to eligible Pashmina goat herders to promote investment in livestock development and improve the quality and quantity of Pashmina production.

The incentive shall be over and above the UT Administration-notified procurement price of raw Pashmina and shall be linked to procurement undertaken through recognised Cooperative Societies.

13.2 Quantum of Incentive

An Additional Top-up Incentive equivalent to **25% of the eligible procurement value** shall be provided to each eligible Pashmina herder.

The eligible procurement value shall be determined on the basis of:

i. UT Administration-notified procurement price of the applicable grade of Pashmina;
ii. Certified net weight of Pashmina procured; and
iii. Approved quality grade assigned during procurement.

The valuation of Pashmina shall be undertaken jointly by the Cooperative Department and the Sheep Husbandry Department, or any authority authorized by the UT Administration.

13.3 Method of Calculation

The incentive shall be calculated using the following formula:

Additional Top-up Incentive = 25% × (UT Administration-notified procurement price × certified quantity)

The detailed methodology for quality grading and valuation shall be notified separately by the UT Administration.

13.4 Mode of Procurement

Only Pashmina procured through recognised Primary Cooperative Societies affiliated with the Apex Cooperative Society shall be eligible for the incentive.

All procurement shall be conducted in accordance with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) notified by the UT Administration.

13.5 Mode of Payment

Upon completion of procurement, grading and verification, the Additional Top-up Incentive shall be credited directly to the beneficiary's Aadhaar-linked bank account through the **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)** system. The modalities of disbursement would be further decided by the Governing Council of the Ladakh Pashmina Development Board, headed by the HLG.

No cash payment shall be made under this Policy.

13.6 Mode of Incentive Utilization

- Out of the additional top up - 60% is to be used for the improvement of livestock (their health and upkeep etc., better veterinary and feed to them).
- 20% is to be used for infrastructural development by the herders - like better combing equipment for combing pashmina, that can improve the pashmina yield.
- remaining 20% for the personal consumption of the herders.



13.7. Utilization of Incentive

The incentive is intended to encourage investment in:

- balanced and nutritious livestock feed;
- veterinary treatment and preventive healthcare;
- vaccination and disease control;
- breeding and genetic improvement;
- livestock shelters and housing;
- winter fodder and feed reserves;
- livestock insurance;
- scientific herd management; and
- other livestock development activities approved by the UT Administration.

14. Funding Pattern

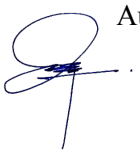
The expenditure on implementation of this Policy shall be met from the budget of the Cooperative Department under the appropriate subsidy head or any other budget head notified by the UT Administration.

The UT Administration may also converge financial resources available under Central Government Schemes, Union Territory Schemes and other approved funding sources for livestock development, cooperative strengthening and rural livelihood promotion.

The annual budget requirement shall be determined on the basis of:

- estimated quantity of Pashmina procured;
- notified procurement price;
- number of eligible beneficiaries;
- anticipated top-up incentive;
- administrative expenditure; and
- monitoring and evaluation requirements.

Release of funds under the Policy shall be subject to budgetary allocation approved by the Competent Authority.



15. Implementation Mechanism

15.1 Nodal Department

The Cooperative Department, UT Ladakh shall be the Nodal Department responsible for implementation, coordination and overall administration of the Policy.

15.2 Role of the Sheep Husbandry Department

The Sheep Husbandry Department shall provide technical support relating to:

- livestock verification;
- breeding programmes;
- veterinary care;
- disease surveillance;
- quality assessment;
- extension services; and
- monitoring of livestock development outcomes.

15.3 Role of Cooperative Societies

The recognised Cooperative Societies shall be responsible for:

- registration of beneficiaries;
- procurement of Pashmina;
- maintenance of procurement records;
- quality grading;
- preparation of Livestock Development Plans;
- dissemination of awareness programmes; and
- submission of claims for release of incentives.

15.4 Release of Incentive

Following procurement and verification, the Cooperative Society shall submit the verified procurement details to the Nodal Department.

After due verification, the UT Administration shall release the Additional Top-up Incentive directly to the beneficiaries through the DBT system.

16. Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Implementation of the Policy shall be monitored through a comprehensive performance-based evaluation system.

The Cooperative Department shall establish a digital monitoring mechanism to track procurement, livestock development and financial assistance.

Annual monitoring shall include:

- livestock census;
- herd growth;
- mortality rates;
- kidding percentage;

- vaccination coverage;
- fibre yield;
- fibre quality;
- household income;
- cooperative procurement;
- utilisation of incentives.

The UT Administration may undertake periodic inspections, third-party evaluations, social audits and independent impact assessments to evaluate the effectiveness of the Policy.

17. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

The success of the Policy shall be measured against the following indicators:

Livestock Development

- Increase in the population of Changthangi Pashmina goats.
- Reduction in livestock mortality.
- Increase in kidding percentage.
- Improvement in breeding efficiency.
- Increase in vaccination coverage.

Production

- Increase in total Pashmina production.
- Improvement in average fleece yield per goat.
- Improvement in fibre quality.
- Increase in premium-grade Pashmina.

Economic Outcomes

- Increase in average annual income of pastoral households.
- Increase in procurement through Cooperative Societies.
- Increase in the value realised by herders.
- Greater investment in livestock management.

Institutional Outcomes

- Increase in active membership of Cooperative Societies.
- Improved digital traceability of Pashmina.
- Timely procurement and payment.
- Strengthened cooperative governance.



Policy Outcomes

By the conclusion of the three-year implementation period, the UT Administration shall endeavour to achieve:

- a substantial increase in the healthy Changthangi Pashmina goat population;
- higher production of premium-quality Pashmina;
- improved household incomes for Changpa pastoral communities;
- strengthened Cooperative Societies as the principal procurement and marketing institutions;
- enhanced competitiveness of Ladakh Pashmina in domestic and international markets; and
- a sustainable, climate-resilient and economically viable pastoral ecosystem in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

18. Transparency and Accountability

18.1 Transparency

The implementation of this Policy shall be governed by the principles of transparency, accountability, fairness and efficiency to ensure that the benefits reach genuine Pashmina goat herders in a timely and equitable manner.

To achieve this objective, the following measures shall be adopted:

a) All procurement of raw Pashmina shall be undertaken only through recognised Primary Cooperative Societies affiliated with the Apex Cooperative Society.

b) Every procurement transaction shall be duly recorded, weighed and quality graded in accordance with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) notified by the UT Administration.

c) The procurement price, quantity procured, quality grade assigned and the corresponding incentive payable shall be recorded digitally and made available for verification by the competent authorities.

d) The Additional Top-up Incentive shall be released only through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system into the Aadhaar-linked bank accounts of eligible beneficiaries.

e) A digital database of beneficiaries, procurement records and incentive payments shall be maintained by the Cooperative Department.

18.2 Accountability

The Cooperative Department shall be the Nodal Department responsible for ensuring effective implementation of the Policy.

The recognised Cooperative Societies shall maintain complete records relating to:

- membership;
- livestock details;
- procurement;
- quality grading;
- incentive claims; and
- payment records.

The UT Administration may undertake:

- departmental inspections;
- financial audits;
- third-party evaluations;
- physical verification of livestock;
- verification of procurement records; and
- social audits through community participation.

Any beneficiary or institution found to have submitted false information, manipulated procurement records, concealed production, or obtained financial assistance through fraudulent means shall be liable for recovery of the incentive together with such penal action as may be prescribed under applicable laws.

19. Convergence with Other Schemes

In order to maximise the impact of public investment and promote holistic development of the Pashmina sector, the UT Administration may integrate this Policy with suitable schemes and programmes of the Union Territory Administration and Government of India.

Such convergence may include programmes relating to:

a) Livestock health and veterinary services.

b) Scientific breeding and genetic improvement.

c) Fodder development and pasture management.

d) Livestock insurance.

e) Rural livelihoods and cooperative development.

f) Skill development and capacity building.

g) Climate-resilient livestock management.

h) Digital livestock identification and traceability.

i) Value addition, processing, branding and marketing of Ladakh Pashmina.

The Cooperative Department may coordinate with other UT Administration Departments and implementing agencies to facilitate convergence and avoid duplication of financial assistance.

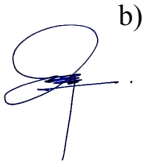
20. Annual Review

The implementation of this Policy shall be reviewed annually by the Administrative Department to assess its effectiveness, financial performance and contribution to the development of the Pashmina sector.

The review shall include, inter-alia:

a) Total quantity of Pashmina procured through recognised Cooperative Societies.

b) Number of eligible pastoral households benefited.



c) Total amount of incentives released.

d) Growth in the population of Changthangi Pashmina goats.

e) Improvement in livestock health indicators.

f) Reduction in mortality rates.

g) Improvement in kidding percentage and breeding performance.

h) Improvement in the quantity and quality of Pashmina produced.

i) Increase in average household income of beneficiary pastoralists.

j) Performance of Cooperative Societies in procurement, quality assessment and implementation of Livestock Development Plans.

k) Budget utilisation and financial efficiency.

Based on the findings of the annual review, the UT Administration may:

- revise the rate of the Additional Top-up Incentive;
- modify eligibility conditions;
- revise quality grading parameters;
- strengthen implementation procedures;
- introduce additional performance-linked incentives; or
- issue such guidelines as may be necessary for achieving the objectives of the Policy.

21. General Conditions

a) Assistance under this Policy shall be subject to the availability of budgetary provisions approved by the UT Administration.

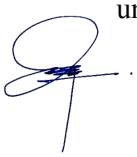
b) The Additional Top-up Incentive shall not constitute a permanent or vested right and may be modified, suspended or withdrawn by the UT Administration in public interest.

c) Only those pastoral households who are registered members of recognised Primary Cooperative Societies affiliated with the Apex Cooperative Society and who market their entire annual Pashmina production exclusively through the cooperative procurement system shall be eligible to receive benefits under this Policy.

d) The quantity and quality of Pashmina shall be determined only through the procurement and quality assessment procedures prescribed by the UT Administration.

e) Incentives shall be released only after procurement, verification and certification by the competent authority.

f) Beneficiaries shall cooperate with inspections, livestock verification, monitoring and evaluation undertaken by the UT Administration.



g) Any false declaration, fraudulent claim, suppression of facts or violation of the provisions of this Policy shall render the beneficiary liable for recovery of the financial assistance together with any other action permissible under law.

h) The UT Administration reserves the right to inspect records, verify claims, conduct audits and undertake third-party evaluations at any stage of implementation.

i) The Cooperative Department may issue operational guidelines, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and clarifications from time to time for the effective implementation of this Policy with the approval of the Competent Authority.

j) In case of any ambiguity regarding interpretation of any provision of this Policy, the decision of the Administrative Department shall be final and binding.

22. Power to Remove Difficulties

If any difficulty arises in the implementation, interpretation or operationalisation of this Policy, the Administrative Department may issue such orders, guidelines, clarifications or instructions as may be necessary for removing such difficulties and ensuring effective implementation of the objectives of the Policy.

The Administrative Department may, with the approval of the Competent Authority:

a) prescribe detailed operational procedures;

b) modify implementation mechanisms based on field requirements;

c) issue Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs);

d) clarify eligibility, verification and payment procedures;

e) introduce additional monitoring measures; and

f) make such amendments as may be necessary for achieving the objectives of sustainable Pashmina development in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

23. Expected Outcomes

The implementation of this Policy is expected to achieve the following outcomes:

23.1 Livestock Development Outcomes

a) Increase in the population of healthy Changthangi Pashmina goats in the Changthang region.

b) Improvement in livestock health, productivity and reproductive performance.

c) Reduction in livestock mortality through improved veterinary care, vaccination and preventive health practices.

d) Improvement in breeding efficiency and herd quality.

e) Increased adoption of scientific livestock management practices among pastoral households.

23.2 Pashmina Production Outcomes

a) Increase in total production of raw Pashmina from the Union Territory of Ladakh.

b) Improvement in average fibre yield per animal.

c) Improvement in fibre quality through better nutrition, herd management and quality practices.

d) Increased production of premium-quality Pashmina.

e) Improved traceability and quality assurance of Ladakh Pashmina.

23.3 Economic Outcomes

a) Increase in income of Changpa pastoral households.

b) Reduction in financial pressure on herders by supporting livestock development expenditure.

c) Increased economic attractiveness of Pashmina goat rearing as a livelihood option.

d) Greater participation of youth in traditional pastoral activities.

e) Improved resilience of pastoral households against climatic and market-related challenges.

23.4 Institutional Outcomes

a) Strengthening of Primary Pashmina Cooperative Societies and the Apex Cooperative Society.

b) Increased procurement through the cooperative system.

c) Improved transparency in procurement, grading and payment mechanisms.

d) Establishment of a robust producer-linked Pashmina value chain.

e) Development of a sustainable and globally competitive Ladakh Pashmina brand.

24. Annexures

Annexure-I

Quality Grading Methodology for Pashmina Procurement

The quality assessment of raw Pashmina shall be undertaken through a standardised grading mechanism notified by the UT Administration.

The grading shall consider parameters including:

a) Fibre fineness;
b) Fibre length;
c) Fibre uniformity;
d) Fibre cleanliness;
e) Colour and natural characteristics;
f) Presence of impurities;
g) Processing suitability; and
h) Other technical parameters prescribed by the competent authority.

The final quality grade shall determine the applicable procurement value for calculation of the Additional Top-up Incentive.

The Cooperative Department, in consultation with the Sheep Husbandry Department and technical agencies, shall notify detailed quality testing protocols.

Annexure-II

Calculation Methodology for Additional Top-up Incentive

The Additional Top-up Incentive shall be calculated as follows:

Additional Top-up Incentive = 25% × Eligible Procurement Value

Where:

Eligible Procurement Value = UT Administration notified procurement price × Certified quantity procured

The calculation shall be based on:

1. UT Administration-notified procurement price applicable during the procurement season;
2. Actual certified quantity of Pashmina sold by the eligible herder;

Example:

If:

- UT Administration-notified procurement price = ₹X per kilogram;
- Quantity supplied by herder = Y kilograms;

Then:

Eligible Procurement Value = X × Y

Additional Top-up Incentive = 25% of Eligible Procurement Value

Annexure-III

Implementation Flow

Step 1: Registration of Beneficiaries

Eligible Pashmina herders shall be registered through recognised Primary Pashmina Cooperative Societies.

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Step 2: Livestock Verification

Livestock details of registered herders shall be verified and recorded.

↓

Step 3: Preparation of Livestock Development Plan

Each Cooperative Society shall prepare an annual Livestock Development Plan covering:

- herd improvement;
- nutrition;
- veterinary care;
- breeding;
- disease prevention;
- productivity enhancement.

↓

Step 4: Procurement of Pashmina

The herder shall sell the entire annual Pashmina production through the recognised Cooperative Society.

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Step 5: Quality Assessment and Valuation

Pashmina shall be weighed, graded and valued according to UT Administration-approved procedures.

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Step 6: Calculation of Incentive

The 25% Additional Top-up Incentive shall be calculated based on:

- notified price;
- quantity supplied;

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Step 7: Verification and Approval

Claims shall be verified by the Cooperative Department and concerned technical authorities.

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Step 8: Direct Benefit Transfer

Approved incentive amount shall be credited directly into the beneficiary's bank account through DBT.

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Step 9: Monitoring

Livestock development outcomes and procurement performance shall be reviewed annually.

Annexure-IV

Indicative Livestock Development Activities Supported Under the Incentive

The incentive may be utilised for:

1. Supplementary feed and balanced nutrition;
2. Mineral mixture and nutritional supplements;
3. Vaccination and preventive healthcare;
4. Veterinary medicines and treatment;
5. Breeding improvement;
6. Livestock shelter improvement;
7. Winter fodder storage;
8. Disease control measures;
9. Livestock insurance;
10. Training and capacity building;
11. Other activities approved by the UT Administration for improving livestock productivity.



Annexure-V

Monitoring Indicators

The following indicators shall be tracked annually:

Livestock Indicators

- Total Pashmina goat population;
- Mortality rate;
- Kidding rate;
- Breeding performance;
- Vaccination coverage.

Production Indicators

- Total Pashmina produced;
- Quantity procured through cooperatives;
- Average fibre yield;
- Quality grade improvement.

Economic Indicators

- Number of beneficiaries;
- Average income improvement;
- Incentive utilisation;
- Investment in livestock development.

Institutional Indicators

- Cooperative membership;
- Procurement efficiency;
- Digital record coverage;
- Timely payment of incentives.

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