# National Gopal Ratna Awards

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**In news-**The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying announced** the National Gopal Ratna Awards 2022 recently.

**About the award-**

- It is **one of the highest National Awards in the field of livestock and dairy sector,** with an objective to recognize and encourage all individuals like Farmers rearing indigenous animals, AI Technicians and Dairy cooperative societies / Milk Producer Company / Dairy farmers Producers Organizations working in this sector.

- **The 2022 Award is conferred in three categories, namely,**
  1. Best Dairy Farmer Rearing Indigenous Cattle/buffalo Breeds,
  2. Best Artificial Insemination Technician (AIT) and
  3. Best Dairy Cooperative/ Milk Producer Company/ Dairy Farmer Producer Organization).
- The award consists of a cash prize of Rs. 5 lakh for 1st rank, Rs. 3 lakh for 2nd rank and Rs. 2 lakh for 3rd rank along with a Certificate of merit and a memento in each category.

**India's livestock sector-**

- The Livestock Sector in the country has been growing at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 8.15% (at constant prices) from 2014-15 to 2019-20.
- This CAGR is higher than other sectors like manufacturing sector, which has shown 6.15%, Agriculture (Crop) sector which has shown 1.95% and services sector with 7.7% for similar period.
- Similarly, the Poultry sector is also growing at (CAGR constant prices) of 10.5% and playing an immense role in

livelihood creation in the rural economy.

- Livestock plays an important role in the Indian economy. About 20.5 million people depend upon livestock for their livelihood.
- Livestock contributed 16% to the income of small farm households as against an average of 14% for all rural households.
- Livestock provides livelihood to two-third of rural communities. It also provides employment to about 8.8 % of the population in India.
- India has vast livestock resources. Livestock sector contributes 4.11% GDP and 25.6% of total Agriculture GDP.

**Further reading:**
**https://journalsofindia.com/rashtriya-gokul-mission/**