Indian Economy · GS - III

Sudden and large-scale livestock mortality can undermine rural livelihoods and expose gaps in veterinary healthcare systems. Examine the importance of veterinary surveillance, scientific investigation and institutional preparedness in addressing such incidents.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 16/11/2026	GS - III	Indian Economy

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Livestock economy, veterinary surveillance, animal disease reporting, toxicological investigation, veterinary infrastructure, Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme, farmer compensation, livestock insurance, inter-agency coordination.

Model Answer

Introduction

Livestock is an important source of income, nutrition and livelihood security for rural households. Sudden animal deaths, whether caused by poisoning, infection or environmental factors, can create serious economic distress.

Importance of Institutional Preparedness

1. **Early detection:** Veterinary surveillance and systematic disease reporting help identify unusual mortality patterns and prevent further losses.
2. **Scientific investigation:** Veterinary teams must conduct post-mortem examinations and toxicological testing to establish the actual cause of death.

3. **Disease control:** The Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme strengthens disease prevention, surveillance and veterinary services.
4. **Coordination:** Police, veterinary departments, laboratories and local administrations must coordinate investigations and preserve scientific evidence.
5. **Farmer protection:** Accessible livestock insurance, timely compensation and veterinary outreach can reduce economic vulnerability.

Way Forward

Strengthening veterinary laboratories, mobile veterinary units, disease-reporting networks and farmer awareness is essential. Investigations should distinguish deliberate poisoning from infectious diseases and accidental contamination.

Conclusion

A responsive animal healthcare system is essential not only for livestock protection but also for rural economic resilience and food security.

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