



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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IVRI Produces Sahiwal Calves Using Advanced Reproductive Technologies

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The Indian Veterinary Research Institute has successfully produced calves of the indigenous Sahiwal cattle using advanced assisted reproductive technologies, marking a major breakthrough in livestock research.

Technology Used

The achievement was made using advanced techniques such as:

Ovum Pick-Up (OPU)

In Vitro Fertilization (IVF)

Embryo Transfer (ET)

This combined method (OPU–IVF–ET) was used successfully for the first time at the institute, enabling faster and more efficient breeding of superior cattle.

Key Achievement

Five healthy Sahiwal calves were produced within five days (starting 28 February 2026)

Developed using high-quality germplasm (elite cow and proven bull lineage)

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Represents a significant leap in genetic improvement of indigenous breeds

Objective of the Initiative

To enhance genetic potential of indigenous dairy breeds

To increase milk productivity and efficiency

To conserve valuable native germplasm

The programme was initiated in 2022–23 focusing on breeds like Sahiwal, Tharparkar, and Murrah buffalo.

Significance of the Breakthrough

Enables rapid multiplication of elite cattle

Supports sustainable dairy farming

Strengthens India's livestock sector and rural economy

Provides a scalable model for future breeding programmes

Additional Facts:

Sahiwal Breed:

? Native to Punjab region (India–Pakistan)

? Known for high milk yield and heat tolerance

ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research):

? Apex body for agricultural research in India under Ministry of Agriculture

Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART):

? Includes IVF, embryo transfer, and cloning techniques used in animal breeding

Livestock Sector in India:

? Contributes significantly to agricultural GDP and rural livelihoods

Related Schemes:

? Rashtriya Gokul Mission (for indigenous cattle development)