National Digital Livestock Mission (NDLM)

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Subject: GS Paper II (Governance) & GS Paper III (Agriculture) **UPSC Relevance:** Use of ICT in agriculture and livestock management.

- **The Core Concept:** NDLM is a farmer-centric ecosystem that aims to create a "Digital Identity" for India's 535 million livestock.
- **Key Pillars:**

1. **Animal Identification (PashAadhaar):** A 12-digit UID ear tag. This prevents "Identity Fraud" in cattle trade and insurance.
2. **Bharat Pashudhan Database:** A centralized portal that tracks every vaccination, deworming, and artificial insemination event.
3. **Disease Control:** It enables "Disease Forecasting." If a foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) case is logged in one village, the system can automatically alert neighboring districts.

- **Economic Impact:**

o**Traceability:** For India to export dairy to the EU/USA, it must provide a digital trail of the animal's health. NDLM provides this "Sanitary and Phytosanitary" (SPS) proof.

o**Credit Access:** Digitized health records serve as a "credit score" for farmers seeking loans.

Challenge: Ensuring 100% ear-tagging in nomadic tribal communities and addressing data privacy for farmers.