Bodoland Pig Mission

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance

Why in news?

A biosecure nuclear breeding farm and model fattener farms are fuelling the drive of a tribal council in Assam to become the hub of quality pig production for the pork-loving northeast India.

- **Need -** Pork accounts for 38.5% of total meat consumption in Assam but the local production accounting for less than 40% of the demand.
- **Bodoland Pig Mission** – Launched with the aim to transforming the region into the ***"Pig & Pork Hub of Northeast India".***
- **Location -** Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR), Assam.
- **Objective -** To bridge the ***demand-supply gap and develop a complete value chain*** around the pork industry and to elevate the traditional system of pig farming with scientific inputs.
- **Collaboration -** A collaboration of the ***BTR government with the Netherlands-based*** Programma Uitzending Managers (PUM) and Denmark's Danish Consortium of Academic Craftsmanship (DCAC).
- The PUM is providing technical support to this farm, the *first of its kind in the northeast.*
- **Target –** The mission has set a 7-year target to achieve the goal of ***producing 1 lakh kg of high-quality, hygienic pork daily***.
- **Features -** Pig-breeding facilities, supply of quality feed at competitive prices, veterinary services, skill enhancement and registration of farmers, livestock identification and insurance facility, value chain development and market linkage.
- **Key components -** Checking inbreeding by maintaining a database of pigs, promotion of bigger community-based farms, each equipped to produce a sizeable number of fattener pigs.
- **Significance -** The mission has empowered tribal farmers and boosting the local economy, creating sustainable livelihoods for thousands of families, and promoting scientific pig rearing techniques.

Quick Facts

Key Initiatives to increase pig production
• **Pig Schools** -The establishment of *the first-ever pig schools in India*, in partnership with Danish institutions, to provide training in scientific pig farming. • **Nucleus Pig Breeding Farm** - The construction of a Nucleus Pig Breeding Farm, the first of its kind in Northeast India, to promote high-quality breeding. • **Training and Kits-**Over 6,000 pig farmers have been trained in modern pig rearing practices, and over 1,000 biosecurity kits have been distributed. • **Bodofa Livelihood Mission**- The Bodoland Pig Mission is a component of the larger Bodofa Livelihood Mission, which focuses on creating economic clusters and developing value chains. • **'Save the Pig' initiative –**Focused on improving the welfare and productivity of pigs, often through scientific rearing techniques, disease prevention, and support for farmers by the global community.

References

1. The Hindu | Bodoland Pig Mission
2. Times of India | Bodoland Pig Mission

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