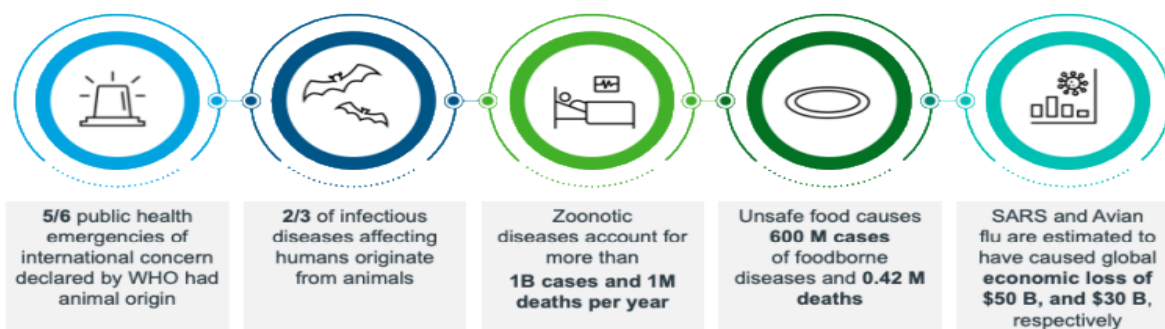# Pandemic Fund Project

Why in News?

Recently "Animal Health Security Strengthening in India for Pandemic Preparedness & Response" initiative has been launched by the Indian government under Pandemic Fund Project.

What are the needs of animal health management?

- **Public Health Emergencies** - In the past few decades, WHO declared 6 public health emergencies of international concern, and 5 of these have had animal origin.
- **Increasing Zoonosis** – About two-thirds of infectious diseases affecting humans originate from animals.
- **Zoonotic Mortality** – Zoonotic diseases account for more than 1Billion cases and 1Million deaths per year.
- **Pandemic Preparedness** - COVID-19 pandemic acknowledged that pandemic preparedness and response (PPR) needs a One Health approach and a focus on animal health security.
- **Protect Livestock Wealth** - 536 million livestock and other animals of India requires measures to prevent and manage infection outbreaks.
- **Food Safety** - Unsafe food causes 600 M cases of foodborne diseases and 0.42 M deaths.
- **Prevent Economic Losses** - SARS and Avian flu are estimated to have caused global economic loss of $50 Billion, and $30 Billion, respectively.
- **Poverty Threats** - Animal disease outbreaks also threaten to reverse the gains made in poverty reduction.

| 5/6 public health emergencies of international concern declared by WHO had animal origin | 2/3 of infectious diseases affecting humans originate from animals | Zoonotic diseases account for more than **1B cases and 1M deaths per year** | Unsafe food causes **600 M cases** of foodborne diseases and **0.42 M deaths** | SARS and Avian flu are estimated to have caused global **economic loss of $50 B, and $30 B,** respectively |

What is the Pandemic Fund Project?

- **Pandemic Fund Project** – The project "Animal Health Security Strengthening in India for Pandemic Preparedness & Response" is launched under the G20 Pandemic Fund .

G20 Pandemic Fund was created by G20 countries under Indonesian presidency in 2022 to assist low-and middle-income countries in strengthening their capacities to identify, report and contain future pandemics.
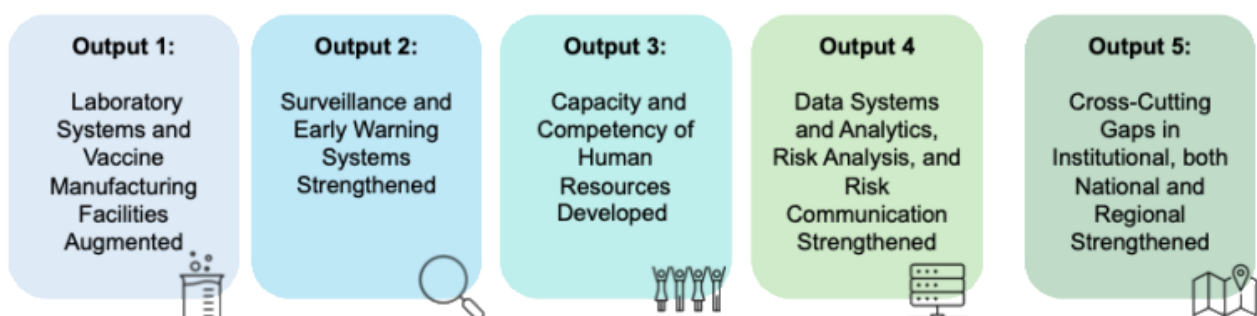
- **Nodal Ministry** - Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.
- **Objective of the Project** - To enhance the country's capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to animal health threats.
- **Implementation** - It is being implemented through three implementing entities Asian Development Bank (ADB), the World Bank, and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

What are the major interventions under the project?

- **Augmentation of Laboratory Systems** - Upgrading and expanding animal health laboratories and developing laboratory networks.
- **Strengthening of Surveillance and Early Warning Systems** - Enhancing early warning systems and building robust sentinel and passive surveillance mechanisms to detect potential outbreaks at an early stage and facilitate timely interventions.
- **Human Resources Development** - Enhance the skills and capabilities of animal health human resources.
- **Upgrading data management systems** - Strengthening of Data Systems, Analytics, Risk Analysis for better risk assessment, improved decision-making, and more effective communication strategies related to animal health risks.
- **Addressing Institutional Capacity Gaps** - Strengthen institutional capacity at both national and regional levels by supporting the development of a disaster management framework for the livestock sector and AMR management.

What are the expected outcomes of the project?

- **Outcome** - Impact of the project would be
  - To reduce the risk of pathogen emergence from animals (domesticated and wildlife)
  - Prent transmission to the human population
  - endangering the health, nutritional security, and livelihoods of vulnerable populations.
- The project is designed to enhance India's animal health security through the following five key outputs

Output 1:	Output 2:	Output 3:	Output 4	Output 5:
Laboratory Systems and Vaccine Manufacturing Facilities Augmented	Surveillance and Early Warning Systems Strengthened	Capacity and Competency of Human Resources Developed	Data Systems and Analytics, Risk Analysis, and Risk Communication Strengthened	Cross-Cutting Gaps in Institutional, both National and Regional Strengthened

Quick facts

2019 Livestock Census

- Total livestock population of India 535.78 million.
  - 192.9 million cattle
  - 148.88 million goats
  - 109.85 million buffaloes
  - 74.26 million sheep
  - 9.06 million pigs
- All other animals taken together contributed just 0.23% of the total livestock population in India.

Reference

The Indian Express | Project to monitor animal healt