

## Kadaknath Project

**Project Title** : Study parameter of indigenous poultry breed Kadaknath: In Farm/ Confined condition and field / backyard condition in Raisen District MP.

**Sanction Year** : 2015-2016 No .MPSBB/M(P)2015/1695 dated 15/12/15

### **Introduction :**

There is a tremendous development in the poultry industry in last few decades, but little attention has been paid for indigenous chicken, due to its poor producing ability. Total poultry population of India was estimated to be 700 million, out of which about 10 to 15% were indigenous or native breeds. There are about 20 indigenous breeds/varieties of chicken found in India. Backyard poultry farming is a part and parcel of typical rural/tribal household, touching social, cultural and economic aspects in India. Need of conservation and improvement of animal genetic resources has been globally accepted. Out of many indigenous poultry breeds, one well known breed named as Kadaknath or Kalamasi meaning the fowl having black flesh. The bird is being reared by Bhils & Bhilalas adivasies living in Jhabua District of Western Madhya Pradesh. The commonly available varieties of Kadaknath are Jet black, Pencilled and Golden which are found in M.P. The Jet black adult males and females are black in colour, the Golden adult male and females were basically black in colour with Golden feathers on head and neck, whereas in Pencilled variety adult male and female plumage are black with white feathers on neck (Singh and Singh, 1998 ). In all the three varieties, skin, beak, shanks, toes and soles of males as well as females were dark gray coloured, whereas tongue was dark gray or light black colour. Comb, Wattles and earlobes were light gray to dark gray coloured. However, in comb, Wattles and earlobes purple hue coloured were also observed.

## **Kadakhath different from other breeds**

<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Other breeds of poultry</b>	<b>Kadakhath</b>
<b>Meat</b>	<b>170-200 per kilogram</b>	<b>500-600 per kilogram</b>
<b>Backyard farming</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Very Good</b>
<b>Protein</b>	<b>18-20%</b>	<b>24-25%</b>
<b>Fat</b>	<b>13-25%</b>	<b>0.73-1.03%</b>
<b>Cholesterol</b>	<b>218.12mg/100g of meat</b>	<b>184.75mg/100 g of meat</b>
<b>Lenoleic acid</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>24%</b>

The population of Kadakhath birds declining rapidly and the breed was under threat of extinction. Therefore there was an urgent need of conservation and selective improvement not only at recognized farm but also at farmers door. Community mobilization and engagement of women and rural youth were core principles, and a consultative approach was adopted throughout while taking key decisions, MP State Bio diversity Board gave a Small project to popularize Kadakhath in District Raisen through comparative study and now few farmers at their own are rearing Kadakhath locally breeding and selling.





