

Bill No. 1 of 2025

THE FODDER WAREHOUSE BOARD BILL, 2025

By

SHRI LUMBA RAM, M.P.

A

BILL

*to provide for establishment of a Fodder Warehouse Board for making available
fodder and water to animals in places affected by natural calamities
like famine, drought or flood and for matters connected
therewith or incidental thereto.*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Fodder Warehouse Board Act, 2025.

(2) It extends to the whole of India.

5 (3) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

Short title,
extent and
commencement.

Definitions.	<p>2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—</p> <p>(a) “animal” means domestic animals which consume fodder;</p> <p>(b) “Board” means Fodder Warehouse Board established under section 3;</p> <p>(c) “prescribed” means prescribed by rules made under this Act; and</p> <p>(d) “warehouse” means any premise (including any protected place) used for storage of fodder under controlled conditions of temperature and humidity.</p>	5
Establishment of the Fodder Warehouse Board.	<p>3. (1) The Central Government shall, within a period of three months from the date of coming into force of this Act, establish a Board to be known as the Fodder Warehouse Board with its headquarters at Jalore in the State of Rajasthan.</p> <p>(2) The Board shall consist of a Chairperson and four other members to be appointed by the Central Government.</p> <p>(3) The Board shall manage the affairs of the Fodder Warehouses.</p> <p>(4) The Central Government shall establish a branch of the Board in every district of the country.</p> <p>(5) Every branch of the Board shall consists of a General Manager and such other officers and staff as may be required.</p> <p>(6) The terms and conditions of service and appointment, salaries and allowances of Chairperson, members and employees of the Board shall be such as may be prescribed.</p>	10
Functions of Fodder Warehouse Board.	<p>4. The Board shall—</p> <p>(i) establish fodder warehouses in every district;</p> <p>(ii) purchase fodder from farmers at such rate, as it may deem fit;</p> <p>(iii) provide facility for transportation of fodder from the fodder store house to places affected by famine, drought, flood or any other natural calamities;</p> <p>(iv) acquire land, in consultation with the State Government, for cultivation of fodder in order to enhance the availability of fodder in famine, drought or flood prone areas; and</p> <p>(v) ensure availability of fodder and drinking water for animals free of cost in places affected by famine, drought, flood or any other natural calamities;</p> <p>(vi) encourage research in collaboration with agricultural research institutions and universities for cultivation of better quality of fodder; and</p> <p>(vii) collect data of animals reared in every village and prepare exigency plan to supply fodder and drinking water to animals in places affected by famine, drought, flood or any other natural calamities.</p>	20
Constitution of Fodder Fund.	<p>5. (1) The Central Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute a Fund to be known as the Fodder Fund with an initial corpus of rupees one thousand crore.</p> <p>(2) The Central Government and the State Governments shall contribute to the Fund in such ratio as may be prescribed.</p> <p>(3) The Fund shall be administered by the Fodder Warehouse Board constituted under section 3.</p> <p>(4) The Fund shall be utilized to produce, procure or collect and store fodder and to provide fodder and drinking water to animals in places affected by natural calamities.</p>	35
Supply of fodder.	<p>6. (1) Any person who requires fodder shall inform the branch office of the Fodder Warehouse Board in the district about the requirement of fodder, in such manner, as may be prescribed.</p>	45

(2) The branch office concerned shall, on receipt of requirement under sub-section (1), supply the requisite quantity of fodder to such person within a period of two days.

7. The Central Government shall give wide publicity to the provisions of this Act in such manner as may be prescribed.

Publicity to the provisions of the Act.

5 **8. (1)** The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

Power to make rules.

10 (2) Every rule made under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both the Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both the Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Natural calamities such as famine, drought and floods result in heavy loss of human lives and property including loss of livestock. Due to the priority given to save the lives of people, it becomes very difficult to save lives of animals. In such situations, to save the livestock and make available sufficient fodder for animals become the main requirements. However, the transportation of fodder and drinking water to the affected areas is not an easy task. Therefore, it is necessary to evolve a mechanism so that fodder and water is made available in places affected by natural calamities.

Due to increase in the population of the country, the area under agriculture is decreasing. The availability of fodder is also continuously decreasing due to harvesting of new varieties of crops in place of traditional crops. There is a need for intervention on the part of the State to take cognizance of shortage of fodder and drinking water for animals particularly during natural calamities and to address the problem being faced by lakhs of farmers and others in rural areas across the country on this account.

In the absence of any exigency plan to meet the demands of fodder and drinking water during natural calamities, the farmers and animal rearers are compelled to sell their livestock at throw away prices to meat-vendors which results in mental agony and heavy financial loss to them.

The Bill, therefore, seeks to provide for establishment of a Fodder Warehouse Board to produce, procure, collect and store and distribute fodder and drinking water for animals in places affected by natural calamities.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;
November 7, 2024.

LUMBA RAM

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 3 of the Bill provides for establishment of a Fodder Warehouse Board. Clause 4 provides for establishment of fodder warehouses, facilities of transportation of fodder and drinking water for animals during natural calamities, collection of data of animals and preparation of exigency plan, etc. by the Fodder Warehouse Board. Clause 5 provides for constitution of a Fodder Fund with initial corpus of rupees one thousand crore. Clause 7 provides for giving wide publicity to the provisions of the Act.

The Bill, therefore, if enacted, would involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India. It is likely to involve recurring expenditure of about rupees one thousand five hundred crore per annum.

A non-recurring expenditure of about rupees two hundred crore is also likely to be involved.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 8 of the Bill empowers the Central Government to make rules for carrying out the purposes of the Bill. As the rules will relate to matters of detail only, the delegation of legislative power is of a normal character.

LOK SABHA

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