GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRYAND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRYAND DAIRYING
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2619
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18th DECEMBER, 2024

DEMOGRAPHICS AND HEALTH STATUS OF LIVESTOCK

2619. **DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:**

Will the Minister of *FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING*
be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assessed the reasons why challenges persist in accurately tracking livestock demographics and health status across rural and remote areas despite repeated Livestock Censuses, and if not, the reasons for the delay;
(b) the reasons why Government has yet to address specific issues that hinder comprehensive data collection, particularly the shortage of trained personnel and digital infrastructure gaps in rural zones;
(c) whether Government has considered the financial strain on small farmers due to lack of support for livestock health programs, and compensation schemes; and
(d) the steps that have been taken to ensure accurate and reliable data collection in the upcoming Livestock Census?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRYAND DAIRYING
(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)**

(a) Sir, Livestock Census is a quinquennial exercise to capture the data on livestock population on various livestock species including their breeds, use, age and sex composition whereas livestock health is a regular phenomenon. So, health status of livestock is not only through data from livestock census but also through other means like surveillance and reporting.
(b) Sir, as far as livestock health is concerned, data on vaccination is being regularly uploaded on the Bharat Pashudhan portal alongwith identification details. In critical areas personnel are being trained continuously.

(c) Sir, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying under Livestock Health & Disease Control Programme is supporting all States/Union Territories (UTs) to increase livestock productivity and augmenting livestock health care through initiatives like prophylactic vaccination, capacity building, disease diagnosis, research & innovation, training etc. The total vaccine doses have been administered against Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Brucellosis, Peste des Peties Ruminants (PPR) and Classical Swine Fever (CSF) are 99.17 crore, 4.36 crore, 18.40 crore and 0.61 crore, respectively. Under the component of Establishment and Strengthening of Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries (ESVHD-MVU), financial assistance has been provided to states/UTs and 4016 Mobile Veterinary Units (MVUs) are operationalised helping in delivery of veterinary healthcare services at farmers' doorsteps in respect of disease diagnosis, treatment, vaccination, minor surgical interventions, audio-visual aids and extension services. Also, diagnostic capabilities of Laboratories and health centre are strengthened. No financial burden is shifted to the farmers including small farmers for this account.

Further, Department has launched the Pandemic Fund Project on "Animal Health Security Strengthening in India for Pandemic Preparedness and Response" with major interventions like strengthening and integrating disease surveillance and early warning system, upgrading, and expanding the laboratory network, improving the inter-operable data systems and building capacity

for risk analysis, strengthening health security for transboundary animal diseases and assessment of laboratories for strengthening and upgradation of existing animal health laboratories including the Central and Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratories alongwith developing model labs and strengthening the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) and Laboratory Quality Management System (LQMS).

(d) Sir, the field operation of 21st Livestock Census has been launched across the country on 25th October, 2024 which will be continued till February, 2025. Data is being collected digitally through a mobile application developed for this purpose. Systematic approach of data collection like using updated local government directory, uses of latest maps of the village or urban wards are being used to ensure complete coverage. Different levels/layers have been created for capturing and verifying data like enumerators, supervisors, district nodal officers, state nodal officers and central administration. Supervisors and above level officers are equipped with a dashboard having last census comparative tables to handhold the critical analysis of data recorded though the census application. They can compare the current households, species, breeds etc. with last census data in their dashboard. Further, at supervisors level they are to physically check the data captured from the villages and wards. Extensive trainings have been conducted upto district level for ensuring use of mobile application smoothly, schedule of data collection, breeds of different species etc. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) - National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR) has developed a training module along with a breed reckoner for easy identifying the breeds in the field. Online training modules and frequently asked questions (FAQs) have also been developed for self-learning. Extensive publicity though audio, televisions, print media, appeals etc are being made to informants to provide accurate information. Civil Societies like Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) working with pastoralist communities are involved to help in capturing data on livestock with pastoralist and remote locations.

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