

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.620
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH DECEMBER, 2017

DAMAGE TO CROPS BY STRAY ANIMALS

620. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has paid attention towards the damage to crops by stray animals in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the remedial steps taken in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government is contemplating/has proposed to install wire fencing under the MGNREGA to protect crops of the farmers; and
- (d) if so, the time by which and the manner in which it is likely to be installed?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) & (b): Stray animals damage agricultural crops in rural areas.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India has informed that there are mechanisms in place for compensating the loss of farmer's crop damaged by stray wild animals, which varies from State to State. The Ministry provides financial assistance to State/Union Territory Government under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for management of wildlife and its habitats in the country. It includes compensation for depredation by stray wild animals including cattle lifting, crop damage, loss of life and property. Beside compensation, financial assistance is also provided for other mechanisms including construction/ erection of physical barriers, such as barbed wire fence. State Government also provides relief from their own funds for damage to crops by stray wild animals.

Assistance as provided to the States for setting up of Gokul Grams for development and conservation of indigenous breeds including 40% unproductive animals under Rashtriya Gokul Mission along with various other components subject as per the norms of the scheme.

The State like Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh have taken steps for stray cattles. Uttar Pradesh has provision to keep such stray animals in Goshalas and Gosadan. In Rajasthan, The State Government provide support for fencing of fields under flexi fund of National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) scheme. "Madhya Pradesh Gopalan Evam Pashudhan Samvardhan Board" is functional in the State under which 604 Gaushalas are operated. The Board also provides financial support for these cattle rearing etc. NGO's are motivated to open as many Gaushalas to contain the problem of stray animals, besides animal keepers are motivated to keep their animals in the households and not to free them to move on the streets.

(c) & (d): The Department of Rural Development, Government of India is not contemplating or proposing to install wire fencing under MGNREGA to protect crops of the farmers.