

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 357
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH SEPTEMBER, 2020
SHORTAGE OF VETERINARIANS

357. SHRI DR AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
मात्स्यिकी, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री
be pleased to state that

(a) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to address the shortage of veterinarians in view of the fact that it is the responsibility of veterinarians to contribute in keeping the nation healthy by increasing availability of animal protein and also that veterinarians will play a big role in helping achieve Government's aim to double farmers' income by 2022;

(b) the efforts made/to be made by the Government to increase the production of livestock, poultry and fish so that the country's citizens are well-nourished and healthy; and

(c) the measures taken/propose to be taken to open cow sanctuaries and to bring animal ambulance at farmers' doorsteps throughout the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) Animal Husbandry is a state subject and veterinary services, including deployment of veterinarians, are provided by respective State Governments as per their requirements. As against the estimated requirement of 67514 veterinarians as per recommendations of National Commission on Agriculture (NCA)1976, to provide accessible veterinary health care in the country, there are 68680 registered veterinary practitioners as on 31/03/2019. Further, to augment the availability of veterinarians in the country, the Central Government has taken various steps such as recognition veterinary colleges from 36 in 2014 to 54 in 2020 and allowing increase in number of seats in the existing veterinary

colleges thereby increasing the availability of veterinary professionals from the recognized veterinary colleges.

(b) In order to complement and supplement the efforts made by the State and UTs to enhance production and productivity of livestock and poultry, Government of India is implementing the following schemes -

(i) Rashtriya Gokul Mission

(ii) National Programme for Dairy Development

(iii) National Livestock Mission

(iv) Livestock Health and Disease Control

(v) National Animal Disease Control Programme for control of Foot and Mouth disease (FMD) and Brucellosis.

To address infrastructure requirements of the fisheries sector, Central Government is implementing the Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) wherein concessional finance is provided to the Eligible Entities (EEs) including State Governments/Union Territories, cooperatives, individuals and entrepreneurs for development of identified fisheries infrastructure. Further, Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) as a part of Atmanirbhar Bharat Covid-19 relief package of Rs. 20,050 crores for a period of 5 years from 2020-21 to 2024-25.

(c) Central Government does not undertake establishment of cow sanctuaries. However, assistance has been released to the States for establishment of Gokul Grams for development and conservation of indigenous breeds of cattle and buffaloes in a scientific and holistic manner. Veterinary hospitals, veterinary dispensaries and Animal Ambulances at farmer's doorsteps are set up by respective States/Union Territories' governments. However, to supplement the efforts of the States/ Union Territories' governments, Government is implementing the "Establishment & Strengthening of Veterinary Hospitals & Dispensaries (ESVHD)", a component under the Livestock and Disease Control Scheme to provide financial assistance for establishment & strengthening of veterinary hospitals & dispensaries as well as for running mobile veterinary clinics (MVC).