

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2311
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10th DECEMBER, 2024

LIVESTOCK CENSUS 2014

2311. SHRI SUDAMA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the livestock census 2024 aims to capture data on transhumant livestock and pastoralist communities;
- (b) the details of the Government plan to ensure that the pastoral census comprehensively covers diverse pastoral communities across various states, particularly in remote and ecologically sensitive regions;
- (c) the details of measures has been taken by the Government to integrate pastoralists into the policy framework, and how will the data from this census address specific challenges such as access to grazing lands, veterinary services and market access for animal products;
- (d) whether the expected benefits of this census for livestock management and disease prevention within the transhumant livestock populations, especially as these animals migrate across diverse climatic zones and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

- (a) Sir, Livestock Census is a quinquennial exercise that has been conducted since 1919. The last livestock Census was conducted in the year 2019 which was 20th Livestock Census. The 21st Livestock Census is due in 2024 and the data collection work of this Census has been started from 25th October, 2024. Census by definition is to collect information from each and every census unit including pastoralist. Accordingly, 21st Livestock Census also captures data on livestock with pastoralist communities.
- (b) Yes sir. In order to capture each and every revenue unit i.e. villages and urban wards the updated local government directory of Ministry of Panchayat Raj is used as a frame to collect data. Further enumerators have been instructed to use the villages and wads maps available with State Revenue Department while collecting data in census units. Members & volunteers of

Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) & Societies working with pastoralist communities are also involved to help the enumerators for identifying and tracing the areas having pastoralist so that information from remote locations will not be left unidentified.

(c) & (d) Yes Sir. The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying has been implementing schemes like the Livestock Health & Disease Control Programme (LH&DCP) and Livestock Insurance to support the well-being of livestock, including those managed by pastoralist communities, who play a vital role as "keepers of genes." Pastoralists conserve indigenous livestock breeds essential for biodiversity and climate resilience while their traditional ecological knowledge sustains livelihoods, ecosystems, and adaptive management, as acknowledged by biocultural community protocols. The data will also help in identifying the movement routes and thereby help in planning vaccination schedule and create physical check posts to prevent movement of disease-ridden flocks. Detailed data from the 21st Livestock Census will enable the Department to assess and address these challenges, integrate or revamp existing schemes, and develop new strategies to provide targeted support, in specific breed tracts by way of ensuring good germplasm in the identified areas, thereby ensuring sustainable livestock management and resilience for these communities.
