

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
 MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
 DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES
 LOK SABHA
 UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 287
 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1ST DECEMBER, 2015

SHORTAGE OF FODDER

287. SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL;

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

- a) whether in the absence of balanced and nutrition fodder and open space for milch animals, infertility among milch animals is turning out to be an epidemic and if so, the details thereof;
- b) whether increasing infertility among native cow breeds is causing decrease in their numbers effecting milk production adversely;
- c) if so, the corrective steps taken by the Government to combat this situation;
- d) the total area of grazing land available in the country including Rajasthan; and
- e) the details of the schemes implemented by the Government to develop pastures in various States?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(DR. SANJIV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) Lack of proper nutrition adversely affects fertility and in turn the milk production. Constraint of space leads to improper management, spread of diseases leading to infertility. Balanced nutrition in terms of energy protein, minerals and vitamins are essential for fertility and milk production.

(b) Infertility in native breeds is much less compared to exotic and cross breeds. Decrease in number of native breeds is due to causes other than infertility, like, lack of proper management and interest in breeding them and also because majority of native breeds are draft type and there is increase in mechanization and decrease in labour availability for use of animal draft power.

(c) In order to compliment and supplement the efforts made by the State to improve fertility of animals, funds are released to the States under National Programme for Bovine Breeding & Dairy Development for organization of fertility camps. In addition an All India Coordinated Research Project has been initiated in the XII plan on "Nutritional and Physiological interventions for enhancing reproductive performance in Animals".

(d) As per Land Use Statistics At Glance, June 2014 total permanent pasture & other grazing land available in the country including Rajasthan is 10,296 Thousand Hectares.

(e) In May, 2014, this Department had launched National Livestock Mission with a Sub Mission on Feed and Fodder development, which provides for financial assistance to the States and Union Territories for development of pasture land.