

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4003

ANSWERED ON:16.12.2002

BAN ON COW SLAUGHTER

ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;BRIJLAL KHABRI;CHANDRESH PATEL KORDIA;SHRINWAS DADASAHEB PATIL;YOGI ADITYANATH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some Indian species of cows have become extinct while some are on the verge of extinction due to cow slaughter in the country;
- (b) whether the Government are considering to ban the issue of cow slaughter in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be banned;
- (d) whether Indian Animal Welfare Board Inquiry team was constituted to conduct an on the spot assessment of the situation on the occasion of Bakrid in 2001;
- (e) whether the said team found evidence that cow progeny from many places in Bihar are sold and taken to West Bengal and are being smuggled to Bangladesh from there;
- (f) if so, whether the Government have formulated any plan for ban on meat exports and extra vigilance to check cattle smuggling to Pakistan and Bangladesh;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) the steps taken by the Government to check illegal slaughter of cows and Inter-State transportation of beef-especially to Kerala and West Bengal?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): No Sir.

(b)&(c): As per the Constitutional provisions the powers to ban cow slaughter is vested with the State Governments, as enshrined in Entry 15 of List II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

(d): The Animal Welfare Board of India has constituted a Task Force in 2001 which has since submitted its report.

(e): From the outcome of the interviews with farmers, regulated Cattle Market Committee, Cattle Sellers, Traders, Police Officials, Check Posts and other animal activities by the Task Force, it can be interpreted that there was evidence that cow progeny from many places in Bihar are sold to West Bengal and from there taken to Bangladesh.

(f)&(g): There is total ban on export of cow meat. The international borders with Bangladesh and Pakistan are manned by security forces, who check smuggling of cattle also.

(h): To check the illegal transport of cattle more effectively, the Prevention of cruelty to Animals, Transport of Animals Rules have been amended by Transport of Animals Amendment Rules, 2001. Most of the States/UTs have enacted laws to ban cow slaughter. In addition, there are laws governing transport of cattle from one state to another.