

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:376
ANSWERED ON:20.10.2008
FODDER FOR LIVESTOCK
Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the arrangements made and the amount spent for providing fodder to save the livestock in the drought affected areas in the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the animal keepers have sent their animals to the other States owing to no-availability of fodder in the drought affected areas;
- (c) if so, the facilities/assistance being provided to these animal keepers;and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government for setting up cow sheds particularly in the backward rural areas and providing grants in the regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI TASLIMUDDIN)

- (a): There is no specific on going scheme for providing fodder to the livestock in the drought-affected areas.However, under the special Livestock and Fisheries Package for the 31 suicide prone districts of Andhra Pradesh (16 districts), Maharashtra (6 districts), Karnataka (6 districts) and Kerala (3 districts), funds have been provided (Annexure-II) for the development of feed and fodder in the affected districts. To increase the availeblility of fodder in the country,Department is also implementing a Centrally Sponsored Fodder Development Scheme throughout the country. During the last three years and the current financial year, funds were provided to States for fodder development under the scheme as per the details given in Annexure-I. Besides this, seven Regional Stations for Forage Production and Demonstration and One Central Fodder Seed Production Farm are in operation to reduce the gap between the demand and supply of feed and fodder in the country.
- (b): There are no reports of migration of livestock from the states on account of non-availbility of fodder in the drought affected areas.
- (c): Question does not arise.
- (d): The on going Centrally Sponsored Fodder Development Scheme has no component to provide grants for setting up of cow sheds in the backward rural areas.