

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2403
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2008
DISEASES IN ANIMALS
Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada;Oram Shri Jual

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether, a large number of animals have died due to spread of several potentially fatal disease including mad cow and anthrax in cattle in various parts of the country over a period of time;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any survey has been conducted regarding spread of these diseases; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken to provide help to the State Governments in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) No Sir. Country is historically free from the Mad Cow Disease. However, potentially fatal animal diseases, including anthrax occur sporadically in the country. Sporadic occurrence of anthrax has been reported from the states of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Kamataka, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Puducherry and Kerala.

(c) & (d) Yes Sir. Intensive surveillance is carried out for Mad Cow Disease as per guidelines of the World Animal Health Organization (OIE). So far, more than 8660 brain samples have been tested and found negative. Funds are provided to the State Governments under the Centrally sponsored scheme 'Assistance to States for Control of Animal Disease (ASCAD)' for animal disease surveillance.