

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:830
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010
INDIGENOUS BREEDS OF LIVESTOCK
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of indigenous breeds of livestock including goats and sheep are showing a declining trend;
- (b) if so, the details thereof,
- (c) whether the Government has proposed systematic surveys and programmes for conservation and enhancement of genetic diversity of domesticated animals;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (e) Breed-wise data on livestock population is not available till 17th livestock Census (2003). However, breed-wise information has been collected by the government during 18th Livestock census (2007), which is being tabulated. Therefore, it is not possible to compare the current population of indigenous breeds with their population in the earlier censuses to draw any definite conclusion. However, considering the importance of indigenous breeds in the national economy, Government has undertaken the following steps for their development and conservation:

(i) Department is implementing national project for Cattle and buffalo Breeding since October, 2000, which has focus on development and conservation of indigenous breeds. During Phase-I of the project an amount of Re. 58 crore has been released to the States exclusively for development and conservation of indigenous breeds. An amount of Re. 356.78 crore has been exclusively earmarked for development and conservation of indigenous breeds under phase-II of NPCBB.

(ii) Government is also implementing three central sector schemes, namely Central Cattle Breeding Farms, Central Frozen Semen production and Training institute and Central herd registration Scheme for production of genetically superior breed of bull calves, good quality frozen semen and identification of location of superior germplasm of cattle and buffaloes to meet the requirement of bulls and frozen semen of some of the important indigenous breeds in the country.