

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2349
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2009
MILCH CATTLE
Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the population of milch cattle is on the decline;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (e) the extent to which this trend is likely to affect milk production in the country?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes, Madam.
- (b) The population of milch cattle in the country has marginally declined from 58.2 million in 1997 Livestock Census to 58.1 million in 2003 Livestock Census. The decline is due to decrease in the population of indigenous milch cattle. However, the population of in-milk cattle increased from 33.3 million to 35.8 million during the same period.
- (c) Yes, Madam.
- (d) The State wise details of milch cattle as per 1997 & 2003 Livestock Censuses are enclosed as Annexure-I.
- (e) There has been an increasing trend in milk production in the country. The milk production in the country has increased from 78.3 million tonnes in 1999-2000 to 104.8 million tonnes in 2007-08.