

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:77
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012
SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK POLICY
Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has initiated a study to formulate a strategy to fight the adverse impact of climate change on the livestock population in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the veterinary and animal scientists had discussed this issue by involving several Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs);
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to evolve a sustainable livestock policy in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PA WAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No.77 TO BE ANSWERED ON 14 AUGUST, 2012.

(a) to (e): The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has initiated studies including following projects to develop baseline information on various productive and reproductive, physiological parameters and performance traits of various livestock species in the context of impact of climate change on the livestock population;

(i) Network Project on `Impact adaptation and vulnerability assessment of Indian agriculture to climate change`.

(ii) National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA)

(iii) Network Project on adaptation and facilitation of Indian livestock to impending climatic changes through shelter management.

The veterinary and animal scientists of ICAR have not discussed this issue with the NGOs. Taking into account the fact that the livestock sector is one of the important sources of livelihood, the National Policy for Farmers, 2007 provides for various steps for sustainable development of the livestock sector, which include conservation of animal genetic resources, adoption of frontier technologies like bio-technology for improving productivity in a sustainable manner and promotion of crop-livestock mixed farming systems. Central Government supplements and complements the efforts of State Governments through various schemes and programmes for conservation and improvement of indigenous breeds to preserve biodiversity and to enhance productivity, for increasing availability of feed and fodder through sustainable land use and recycling of crop residues and by-products, and also for enhancing productivity of the livestock sector. The Government has also launched the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture with components like development of crop-livestock to cope with biotic and abiotic stress levels, development of integrated farming systems to suit specific location needs and change in dietary practices of livestock to curb methane emission etc.