

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1738

ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012

VETERINARY HOSPITALS

Ananth Kumar Shri ;Nagar Shri Surendra Singh

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the total number of veterinary doctors/hospitals in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the estimated shortage of veterinary hospitals and doctors and other trained staff including in rural areas, State-wise; and
- (c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a) & (b) There are 59704 veterinary doctors/ registered veterinary practitioners in the country. As per the information available with the Department, there are 9958 veterinary hospitals/polyclinics and 22200 veterinary dispensaries in the country. Based on the Livestock Census (2007), India has about 336 million cattle units (one cattle unit equivalent to one large animal or 5 pig or 10 sheep and goats or 100 poultry). As per the recommendations of the National Commission on Agriculture (1976), there should be at least one veterinarian for every 5000 cattle units by 2000 AD and thus there is a requirement of about 67200 veterinarians to provide veterinary health care to about 336 million cattle units. Therefore, at present, there is an overall shortage of veterinary doctors and veterinary hospitals in the country. The State-wise details of registered veterinary practitioners are given at Annexure I.

The State-wise details of number of veterinary hospitals/polyclinics and veterinary dispensaries are at Annexure II.

(c) The veterinary hospitals/ polyclinics and dispensaries, etc. are set up by the States/ Union Territory Governments including recruitment and deployment of veterinary doctors for providing veterinary services. However, in order to address the need to set up new veterinary hospitals/dispensaries and to strengthen/ equip the existing ones, the Department has initiated a new component, namely, 'Establishment & Strengthening of Existing Veterinary Hospitals & Dispensaries (ESVHD)' as part of Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Livestock Health & Disease Control (LH&DC)' since August, 2010 and now provides financial assistance to States on 75:25 basis of cost norms of the scheme between the Centre and States except NE States, where the grants are provided on 90:10 basis. Under this component, during 2010-11, a sum of 9726.50 lakhs has been released to the States/UTs for new construction/strengthening of veterinary hospitals/dispensaries. Similarly, a sum of 9881.36 lakhs has been released to the States/UTs during 2011-12. During 2012-13, there is a provision of 9100.00 lakhs for this component.