

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3529

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2013

VETERINARY HOSPITALS

Kaswan Shri Ram Singh; Maharaj Shri Satpal

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is acute shortage of veterinary hospitals/dispensaries in various States, especially in hilly States;
- (b) if so, the criteria for opening of veterinary hospitals along with the number of existing veterinary hospitals/dispensaries in each State/UT;
- (c) the assistance provided to the States and the funds earmarked for setting up of such hospitals during the current year; and
- (d) the number of hospitals/dispensaries proposed to be set up in various States/UTs during the next two years?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As per the information available with the Department, there are 10094 veterinary hospitals/polyclinics and 21269 veterinary dispensaries in the country including hilly states. 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). At present, there is an overall shortage of veterinary hospitals/dispensaries in the country to cater the needs for providing veterinary services in the country. The veterinary hospitals/dispensaries etc. are set up by the States/Union Territory Governments depending upon the livestock population in a particular area and availability of resources. The State-wise details of existing veterinary hospitals/policlinics and dispensaries is given at Annexure I

(c) & (d): In order to address the need to set up new veterinary hospitals/dispensaries and to strengthen/equip the existing ones, the Department is providing assistance to States /UTs under the component 'Establishment and Strengthening of existing Veterinary Hospitals & Dispensaries (ESVHD)' as part of Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Livestock Health & Disease Control (LH&DC)' since August, 2010. The details of funds provided to the States/UTs since inception of the scheme including the current year (till date) is at Annexure II. The scheme is demand driven and for 2012-13, the funds to the tune of 46.87 crores have been kept at Revised Estimate (RE) stage. The Department has proposed an allocation of 300.00 crores under this component during 12th Five Year Plan.