

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4747

ANSWERED ON:23.04.2013

SHORTAGE OF FODDER

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the demand and supply gap has pushed up the price of fodder and the shortage has been aggravated drought effect in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether it is a fact that grass lands/pastures and green belts are decreasing and as a result, the animal population is on the decline;
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether fodder is not being provided in time at fodder banks set up for cattle in drought affected States including Maharashtra;
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (g) whether irregularities have been reported in providing fodder, drinking water etc. in various States; and
- (h) if so, the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) and (b) The demand and supply gap in fodder leads to seasonal increase in price, however no report has been received on direct relationship of this on drought aggravation.
- (c) and (d) A declining trend is reported on grasslands / pastures, but no such report is available regarding green belt. However, animal population is not on the decline. Still, to sustain the livestock, Government of India is implementing the Centrally sponsored Fodder and Feed Development Scheme, the Central Sector Scheme – Central Fodder Development Organisations , Accelerated Fodder Development Programme and National Dairy Plan for enhancing fodder and feed. State Governments can also avail funds under the schemes like Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme besides their own budgetary resources.
- (e) and (f) No such report has been received from the State Governments.
- (g) and (h) No such report has been received from the State Governments.