

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1170
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013
DEMAND AND SUPPLY OF FODDER
Viswanathan Shri P.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large gap exists between the demand and supply of feed and fodder for milch cattle in the country thereby leading to a fall in milk production;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the estimated current fodder production and availability of improved fodder seeds along with the estimated requirement during the next one year;
- (d) whether it is a fact that grasslands/ pastures are decreasing and as a result, the animal population is on the decline; and
- (e) 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) to (c) There is gap between demand and supply of feed and fodder in the country, but there is no fall in milk production. Assessment of fodder production, or fodder seed production is not made every year. However, the demand and availability of fodder and feed, assessed by NABARD CONSULTANCY SERVICES in 2007 is as under:

(Dry matter in million tones)

Sr No.	Feed	Demand	Availability	Gap
1	Dry Fodder	416	253	163
2	Greens	222	143	79
3	Concentrate	53	23	30

The estimated availability of improved fodder seeds is about 40,000 tonnes per annum. Estimated requirement of fodder seeds is 5.4 lakh tones per annum.

(d) A declining trend is reported on grasslands / pastures, but animal population is not on the decline.

(e) To enhance availability of feed and fodder in the country, Government of India is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Fodder and Feed Development Scheme, and the Central Sector Scheme comprising of Central Fodder Development Organizations and Central Minikit Testing Programme. State Governments can also avail funds under the Schemes like the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme besides their own budgetary resources.