

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1827

ANSWERED ON:22.07.2014

DECLINE IN PASTURE LAND

Chautala Shri Dushyant;Devi Smt. Rama;Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao;Patle Smt. Kamla Devi

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that pasture land is constantly declining in the rural areas and is on the verge of extinction;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the total number of centres functioning in the country to provide fodder at cheaper rates, State-wise including Chhattisgarh;
- (d) whether the Government have made assessment of the implications of declining/likely to be extinct pasture land on the rural farmers;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the efforts made by the Government to provide fodder at cheaper rates to the farmers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

- (a) & (b): Yes, Madam. It is true that permanent pastures & grazing lands are declining nominally in the country but surely not on the verge of extinction. The State wise area under permanent pastures & grazing lands during 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 was 10.33971, 10.30142 and 10.29626 million hectares, respectively. The gradual decrease in area under pastureland, across the States is due to diversion of agricultural lands for other agriculture purposes, encroachment, urbanization and industrialization, etc.
- (c) No such information is available.
- (d) No such assessment has been made.
- (e) Does not arise.
- (f) Government has no direct scheme to provide fodder at cheaper rates but it is implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme and Central Sector Scheme to enhance feed and fodder production in the country to maintain supply of feed and fodder at reasonable rates.