

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3366
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2014
USE OF ANIMALS IN ARMY
Chautala Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether different types of animals are used for various purposes and operations in the Indian army;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the manner in which these animals are treated once they are unfit for serving;
- (c) whether the Government makes arrangement for feed and veterinary care of these animals once they are out of service; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) to (d): Yes, Madam. Mules, horses, donkeys and dogs are used in the Indian Army for various purposes. Mules are used for carrying rations, ammunition and miscellaneous stores. Horses are used as troopers, for casualty evacuation and also for ceremonial purposes. Donkeys are used for breeding purposes for production of mules and dogs are used in counter insurgency operations. Once unfit for service these animals are dealt with as per Defence Service Regulations.