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Title:Need to take steps to encourages Cow Shelter Houses in the country.

SHRI THOTA NARASIMHAM (KAKINADA): Thank you Deputy-Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to speak.

Sir, cow is an auspicious and living Goddess, interlinked with the lives of every Hindu. We consider cow as the mother and treat it as a family member, not as an animal. We believe that mother cow is the abode of 33 crore Gods.

Nowadays, in the name of *Godanam* some people are leaving the cows on the streets, which are starving for food mostly in towns and cities. Unfortunately these cows are roaming on streets and eating trash in garbage. If cows eat plastic bags, then digestive system suffers and gradually these bags get collected in their stomach causing the cows die of severe pain mostly due to cancer.

Government should aim to care for stray, abandoned cows, bulls, retired oxen and orphaned calves and provide them with food, flour, fresh grass, clean water, medical attention and a place where they can recover from injuries and stay peacefully.

Now, it is time to encourage Cow Shelter Houses. If the Government is not in a position to run them, it should offer best possible concessions and encourage the voluntary organisations which can run Cow Shelter Houses. There are a few such organisations in the country. So let their number be increased.