

During the year 2009-10, the variety "Sushil Laxmi" was tested again for DUS (Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability) testing at Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur and Mahatma Phule Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Rahuri as per the directives and guidelines of PPV&FRA. This variety was grown with other reference varieties of chickpea (BGD 75, BG 256, ICCV 37, Avrodhi, K 850, Vishal, Vaibhal and RSG 807). All the reference varieties performed well but plan population of "Sushil Laxmi" was not as per specification of DUS test because of mortality of plants due to wilt and other root diseases under field condition. It was susceptible to wilt and other root diseases and inferior in yield in comparison to other popular varieties of chickpea.

Dwindling population of goats and sheep

2202. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of States where goat and sheep population is recorded as dwindling during last two animal censuses;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to stop the export of goat and sheep meat;
- (c) whether Government has considered the revised export meat policy in reference to the said census results; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) The last two animal censuses are 17th Livestock Census of 2003 and 18th Livestock Census of 2007. The names of the States where goat and sheep population has declined during the intercensal period *i.e.* 2003 to 2007 are as under:

States	
Goat	Goa, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Sikkim, West Bengal, Chandigarh and Daman and Diu
Sheep	Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

However, during the same period the total number of goats at all India level has increased from 124358 thousand to 140537 thousand and that of sheep from 61469 thousand to 71558 thousand.

(b) to (d) As, per the current Foreign Trade Policy, the export of meat of sheep and goat is free. There is no proposal under consideration to amend the Policy.

Funds for development of agriculture

2203. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: