

requirement of the growing population of the country, the Government of India is laying emphasis on development of resource rich eastern region of the country for enhancing agricultural production. This would also help in reducing the over exploitation of natural resources in north western region, the traditional food bowl of the country. Accordingly, the Government of India launched in a programme of “Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI)” –a sub scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) in seven eastern States of Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh (East) and West Bengal. The objective of the programme is to increase the productivity of rice based cropping system by promotion of recommended agricultural technologies by addressing the underlying key constraints of different agro climatic sub regions. The programme is being continued during 2014-15 in 121 identified districts of the seven States with an allocation of ₹ 1000/- crore.

Central Rice Research Institute (CRRI), Cuttack has been assigned the responsibility of providing technical backstopping to the programme. A three tier monitoring structure has been created at National, State and District levels with the active involvement of agricultural scientists of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs).

Decrease in number of indigenous cows

2481. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether number of buffaloes is increasing and number of indigenous cows is decreasing continuously over the years as Swadeshi cows were 1,78,782 in 1997 which reduced to 1,26,495 in 2014.

(b) if so, the present status thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether such neglect of GOMATA is a matter of grave concern; and

(d) whether Brazil has imported indigenous cows from India as their overall performance is better than exotic breeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The number of buffaloes and indigenous female cattle in the country as per Censuses 1997, 2003 and 2007 are given in the table below.

Species	1997 (in millions)	2003 (in millions)	2007 (in millions)
Buffalo	89.92	97.92	105.34
Female indigenous cattle	88.58	82.96	89.24

The number of buffaloes had continuously increased in the country from 89.92 Millions in 1997 to 105.34 Millions in 2007. The number of indigenous female cattle had decreased from 88.58 Millions in 1997 to 82.96 Millions in 2003 but increased to 89.24 Millions in 2007.

(c) The indigenous female cattle population has increased as indicated in Census-2007 and thus, there is no neglect of "GOMATA". In order to supplement the efforts made by the States Government for development and conservation of indigenous breeds of cattle and buffaloes, the Central Government is implementing Schemes namely, (i) 'National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding' (NPCBB), (ii) National Dairy Plan, (iii) Central Cattle Breeding Farms (CCBFs), (iv) Central Frozen Semen Production and Training Institute (CFSP&TI) and (v) Central Herd Registration Scheme (CHRS).

(d) No export of cows from India to Brazil has been recorded during 1997 to till date.

Contingency plan to address deficiency in rainfall

2482. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent study by Morgan Stanley has indicated that the deficiency of rainfall during this monsoon season could only cause a moderate impact on both Kharif and Rabi crops;

(b) whether the Morgan Stanley study predicts a seven per cent deficiency which is considered a national average;

(c) whether FAO of the UN has forecast a huge impact of El Nino on India's Kharif crop on prolonged continuation of rainfall deficiency; and

(d) whether Government is constantly watching the situation to firm up its contingency plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) A study by Morgan Stanley has indicated that the impact of deficit rainfall on country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) may not be very significant.

(b) India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast that rainfall during 2014 South West Monsoon for the country as a whole is likely to be 93% of the Long Period Average (LPA) with a model error of $\pm 4\%$.

(c) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (UN) in its review dated 17.06.2014 has predicted that in the eventuality of full strength of El Nino in northern hemisphere during April to September, northern India is likely to receive below average monsoon rainfall impacting growth and yield of kharif crops. FAO