

(d) Other measures taken for development of improved strains of captive brood stock are as follows:

- (i) National Freshwater Fish Brood Bank (NFFBB) has been set up through National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) at Bhubaneswar to ensure availability of quality brood stock to hatcheries for production of good quality seed.
- (ii) A National Marine fin fish Brood Bank has been established by ICAR to improve the captive brood stock of Cobia and silver Pompano.
- (iii) Hungarian strains of common carp and scale carp have been imported and their brood stocks are being maintained for seed production and grow out culture. The seed of the improved variety of Hungarian common carp was distributed for field demonstration in farmers' ponds in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim.
- (iv) Introduction of Specific Pathogen Free (SPF) brood stock through proper bio-security measures for seed production and culture of quality shrimp has been taken up to solve this problem.

#### **Conservation of indigenous livestock**

654. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has formulated any plan for conservation of indigenous livestock breeds native of Andhra Pradesh like Ongole and Punganur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for cattle breed improvement in Andhra Pradesh through large scale cross breeding, upgradation of local buffaloes with Murrah, selective breeding in indigenous cattle like Ongole?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIA) : (a) and (b) In order to compliment and supplement the efforts made by the States and UTs for conservation of indigenous breeds including native of Andhra Pradesh government has formulated and implementing following schemes having focus on development and conservation of indigenous breeds:

- (i) National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development
- (ii) National Dairy Plan
- (iii) Central Herd Registration Scheme – Ongole Unit
- (iv) National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (till 2013-14)

(c) Following steps are being taken up under the above mentioned schemes for cattle breed improvement in Andhra Pradesh through large scale cross breeding, upgradation of local buffaloes with Murrah and selective breeding in indigenous cattle like ongole:

- (i) Strengthening of semen stations
- (ii) Strengthening of bull mother farms
- (iii) Strengthening of Embryo Transfer Technology Laboratory
- (iv) Streamlining Liquid Nitrogen Transport and distribution system
- (v) Extension of AI coverage through establishment of Private AI workers (Gopalmitras)/MAITRIs, strengthening of existing AI centres
- (vi) Induction of bulls for natural service
- (vii) Bull production programme for indigenous breeds of cattle like Ongole and Punganur
- (viii) Progeny testing programme for Jersey Crossbred.

#### **Revival of agriculture sector**

655. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to revive/ invigorate farm sector and national agricultural market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action plan to help State Governments to improve their qualitative farm production with a view both to meet the domestic needs, encourage exports and to mitigate the plight of farmers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIA) : (a) to (c) Agriculture being a State subject, State Governments take up several schemes and programmes in accordance with the agro-climatic conditions, felt needs of the State concerned for development of Agriculture and better income generation of farmers. In addition, Government of India also implements several schemes and provides financial assistance to States for the benefit of farmers for better planning, cultivation and marketing of their agricultural produce. Better extension support, timely agricultural and market information, best agricultural practices, etc. are provided to farmers through State Govts./ Agencies. States