(b) whether it is also a fact that during the corresponding period, the population of buffalo in the country has come down; and

(c) if so, whether it has raised some apprehensions about its impact on domestic milk availability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) As per the information furnished by Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the buffalo meat exports have increased from USD 1163.54 million in 2009-10 to USD 4781.18 million in 2014-15.

(b) The female population of buffalo has increased from 85.75 million in 18th Livestock Census-2007 to 92.60 million in 19th Livestock Census-2012.

(c) The milk production in the country has increased from 116.4 million tonnes in 2009-10 to 146.31 million tonnes in 2014-15. Moreover, the per capita availability of milk has also increased from 273 gms/day to 322 gms/day during the same period.

## Providing Central Agricultural University status to Pusa Agricultural Institute

†2179. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any plan to make Pusa Agricultural Institute as a Central Agricultural University; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of budget provision made, and the time by when action will be initiated on this work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) and (b) (i) Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi is a deemed university.

(ii) The Pusa Institute in Bihar was earlier called Rajendra Agricultural University under Bihar Government. Now the Parliament has enacted the law to convert it to Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University. The Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University Act, 2016 has been notified in the Gazette of India on 28.05.2016.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.