

**Allocation of funds under National Livestock Mission**

563. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the animal husbandry sector is rapidly emerging as the largest incremental contributor to farm incomes across the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has received proposals from State Governments for the increased allocation of funds under the National Livestock Mission, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has received a representation from the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in this regard, if so, the action taken by Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) No such information is available.

(b) The Department has received proposals from various States including Tamil Nadu for release of funds under National Livestock Mission. The tentative fund allocation to the State of Tamil Nadu is ₹ 704 lakhs as Central share for the financial year 2016-17 and the amount of ₹ 704 lakhs has been released.

(c) No such representation has been received.

**Implementation of Soil Health Card Scheme**

564. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soil Health Card scheme launched by Government is running with a very slow pace, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of Soil Health Cards issued so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) The Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme was launched on 19th February 2015. Under the Scheme, Soil Health Cards (SHCs) will be provided to all farm holdings in the country at the interval of two years so as enable farmers to apply appropriate recommended dosages of nutrients for crop production and improving the soil health and its fertility.

In 1st cycle, 253 lakh soil samples to be collected and after testing the samples 1400 lakh Soil Health Cards to be distributed among the farmers by 31st March, 2017.