

Conservation and development of grazing land

†2755. SHRI R.K. SINHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of grazing land that was available in the country at time of independence and the quantum of the same remaining as on date; and

(b) the efforts being made to free these grazing lands, which have been illegally encroached upon, and what is being planned for the conservation and development of the remaining grazing land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) As per the latest report furnished by Directorate of Economics and Statistics Department of Agriculture, Co-operation and Farmers Welfare in their Land Use Statistics at Glance May 2015 Report, the total permanent pasture and other grazing lands in the country were 6,675 and 10,240 thousand hectares in 1950-51 and 2012-13 respectively.

(b) The responsibility to safeguard against encroachment of land lies with the State Governments. However, this department is implementing the National Livestock Mission since 2014-15 with, a Sub-Mission on Feed and Fodder Development wherein financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and Union Territories for fodder production from Non-forest wasteland/rangeland/grassland/non-arable lands. These funds can be utilised for conservation and development of remaining grazing lands.

Jan Aushadhi Stores in Chhattisgarh

†2756. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jan Aushadhi Generic Drug Stores (JAGDS) are running in Chhattisgarh, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government of Chhattisgarh has taken up the issues related to functioning of JAGDS in Chhattisgarh, if so, the result thereof;

(c) the details of the JAGDS which have been set up and are functioning in the ST dominated backward areas of the country, including Chhattisgarh; and

(d) the number of JAGDS proposed to be opened in the above areas, including Balrampur in Chhattisgarh, location-wise?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.