

Protection of native breed

3999. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the population of native breeds of cattle, buffalo, goat, sheep, swine, equine, camel and poultry, which are adaptable to climate and nutrition and resistant to diseases and stress, has come down alarmingly, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has any proposal to formulate a scheme to protect and preserve these native breeds; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) As per 19th Livestock Census-2012, the population of indigenous cattle, goat, sheep, camel, and backyard poultry have declined whereas the population of buffalo has increased as per the table given below:

(In thousand)			
Category	2007	2012	Increase/decrease (%)
Indigenous cattle	166015	151172	-8.94
Buffaloes	105342	108702	3.19
Goat	140537	135173	-3.82
Indigenous Sheep	67828	61288	-9.64
Camel	517	400	-22.63
Backyard Desi	221665	180468	-18.59
Fowls and ducks			

(b) and (c) Since the year 2014-15, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is implementing National Livestock Mission (NLM) under which there is a scheme, 'Conservation of Livestock Breeds' for conservation of indigenous threatened breeds of livestock. Under this component, the States are funded for conservation of those livestock breeds whose numbers goes below 10,000 and poultry breeds which numbers goes below 1000. The States are also encouraged to undertake a structured programme for identification and registration of new breeds. The another Scheme namely National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development launched by Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries also focuses, among other things, on development and conservation of indigenous breeds of bovine.