

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to stop/to get stopped this continuous loss of livestock;

(c) whether any project is being run by the Central Government itself for the protection and utilization of animals;

(d) if not, whether any assistance is being provided to the projects running in the States; and

(e) whether there is any provision to provide assistance to States; if so, the details thereof for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) The movement of healthy animals for purposes of slaughter is not worrisome so long as it is in conformity with law.

(c) to (e) The Government is running a number of schemes, both in Central Sector and Centrally sponsored, for protection of animals from disease and improving productivity, leading to their better utilization. The expenditure on various such animal husbandry and dairying schemes was Rs.412.64 crores in 2004-05, Rs.418.52 crores in 2005-06 and Rs.515.36 crores in 2006-07.

#### Farm subsidies

1988. DR. K. KESHA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that developed countries like the US and Japan are giving 30 per cent of their GDP towards farm subsidies;

(b) whether it is a fact that a country like India where about 63 per cent depend on agriculture is extending a scarce share of the GDP towards subsidies; and

(c) if so; what steps Government would take to step up farm subsidies to reduce interest rates for agriculture and self-help groups?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The details regarding Domestic Support provided by USA and Japan as notified to the World Trade Organization for the latest available years of 2000 and 2001 are given as under:

Name of the Country	(In US \$ million)	
	Total Domestic Support	
	2000	2001
USA	74,200.30	72,129.10
Japan	30,551.97	

Details regarding subsidy in agriculture sector in India, as received from Central Statistical Organization (CSO), are given below:

		(Rs. in crore)		
SI. No.	Item	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1.	Fertiliser (Total)	11015	11847	15879
	1.1 Indeginous fertilizer	7790	8521	10243
	1.2 Imported Fertilizer	0	0	494
	Sale of decontrolled fertilizer with concession to farmers.	3225	3326	5142
2.	Electricity **	8581	14561	15433
3.	Irrigation ##	13017	11150	12964
4.	Other subsidies given to marginal farmers and farmers Cooperative Societies in the form of seeds, development of oil seeds, pulses etc.	3179	4108	4521

Fertilizers and other subsidies given to marginal farmers Expenditure Budget 2007-08 Vol I Central Government

\*\* :Includes all subsidies to Electricity Boards and Corporations. Separate estimates of Electricity subsidy accountable exclusively to agricultural sector are not available

## : The rates for supply of water to farmers are kept low as a matter of policy, resulting in losses to the Government irrigation system. The excess of operating costs over the gross revenue is treated as imputed irrigation subsidy.

Note: The estimates are provisional.

Source: Central Statistical Organization

(c) A comprehensive credit policy was announced on 18th June 2004 to double the flow of credit to the agriculture sector in three years. From Kharif 2006-07, farmers are provided crop loan upto Rs. 3.00 lakh at 7 per cent rate of interest and the Government of India and State Governments would provide necessary interest subvention to NABARD and Banks for this purpose. A sum of Rs. 1,677 crore has been provided in the Union Budget 2007-08 for this purpose. The Special Rehabilitation Package launched in 31 specially distressed districts in four States includes debt relief to farmers also.

#### **Subsidy for Vidarbha cotton growers**

†1989. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: SHRI  
DATTAMEGHE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Members of Parliament from Vidarbha in Maharashtra have submitted a memorandum in which they have demanded subsidy for cotton growers and to increase the purchase price for their crop;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.