(d) As per Constitutional provision, the preservation of cattle is in the State List and therefore, the States are having exclusive powers to legislate in the matter. Even then the Government of India is examining the matter.

Legislation for cow slaughter

3733. SHRIKARNENDUBHATTACHARJEE:

PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: SHRISHAMD SIDDIQUI: SHRTMATINP. DURGA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have decided to enact legislation for imposing a total ban on cow slaughter in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the matter has been discussed with various State Governments and if so, their response to the proposed legislation;
- (d) what arrangements have been made to look after millions of stray cattle all over the country; and
- (e) whether some sections of the society are opposing to this move; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YAD AV): (a) to (e) The preservation of cattle is a matter on which the State Legislatures have exclusive powers to legislate, the relevant entry being Entry 15 ,of List II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution which reads as follows:

"Preservation, protection and improvement of stock and prevention of animal, diseases, veterinary training and practice."

Even then the Government of India is examining the matter.

Situation assessment survey on farmers

3734. SHRI BHAGATRAMMANHAR: SHRI RAJUPARMAR,: SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: (a) whether it is a fact that reforms in the agriculture sector have failed to benefit the poor and marginal farmers;