

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3071
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2000
MEAT RESEARCH CENTRE
MD ANWARUL HAQUE

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal to upgrade National Research Centre on Meat located at Izatnagar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the meat leads to more than 150 diseases as per World Health Organisation study and Joint report of World Cancer Research Fund & American Cancer Research Society;
- (d) if so, whether the Government propose to conduct a study on medical costs of meat consumption; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

- (a) & (b): National Research Centre on Meat is being established at Hyderabad as full-fledged center with independent status. Officer on Special Duty has been appointed on 21st September, 99. EFC for the IX Plan has been already approved.
- (c) Eating of good quality meat do not cause any diseases. In fact meat is a good source of high quality animal protein which helps in fighting malnutrition diseases. Consumption of Cured Bacon with excessive amount of nitrite coupled with deep fat frying has been suggested to have carcinogenic effect due to formation of nitrosamines but without any conclusive evidence. To prevent such risks the permissible limit of nitrite has been fixed as 200 ppm in curing of Bacon (pig meat). Researches are on to find suitable substitutes for nitrite for curing meat products. However, use of nitrites prevents the hazard of botulism food poisoning which is indeed very serious.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) Does not arise.