

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4495
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005
POULTRY SECTOR
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has explored the possibilities of employment generation through poultry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the number of persons/employment generated during the last three years, year- wise;
- (d) whether the Government is giving some encouragement to poultry in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details of the measures taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a)to(c): The Government is encouraging Rural backyard poultry development primarily for nutritional supplementation and subsidiary income of the weaker section of the society especially women. The Department of Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Assistance to State Poultry Farms" since 1999-2000 under which low input technology birds (improved indigenous birds) are made available to the beneficiaries for rearing. The beneficiaries may consume some of the products like egg/meat and sell the surplus. The numbers of birds kept by the beneficiaries vary widely but usually in the range of 15-20 birds. It is not possible to assess the degree of employment generated due to involvement of the whole family.

However, presently it is estimated that around 2 million people are engaged in poultry and allied activities, mostly in organized, commercial sector. This does not include farmers maintaining backyard poultry.

(d)&(e): Besides, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Assistance to State Poultry Farms", this Department is also implementing the Central Sector Scheme "Central Poultry Development Organization" for taking up regional development of rural poultry. A new scheme "Dairy/Poultry venture Capital Fund" has been launched during the year 2004-05, wherein there is a provision to grant subsidy on interest payment.

The Central Poultry Development Advisory council has been recently re- constituted and a meeting was held on 2nd February, 2005, in which various issues of both organized and unorganized sectors were discussed.