

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:805
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2006
DECLINE IN NUMBER OF COW AND BUFFALO
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether certain breeds of cattle are facing extinction and the number of Indian breeds of cows and buffaloes has declined;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether National Institute of Cattle Genetics has formulated any scheme for conservation of cattle;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the initiatives taken by the Government with participation of farmers to conserve the breeds of cattle under the scheme; and
- (f) the names of breeds proposed to be covered under the programme?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a)&(b): The Breed wise livestock census was conducted for the first time in 2003. Therefore it is not possible to comments on changes in population of a particular indigenous breed of cattle and buffaloes. However, data on indigenous, crossbred cattle and buffalo population available from 1997 and 2003 livestock census showed overall decline in indigenous cattle and increase in crossbreds and buffalo population.

(c)to(f): No Sir. However, the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) has established a National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR) at Karnal with the mandate to characterize and conserve animal genetic resources through Network and National Agriculture Technology Project (NATP) in collaboration with State Agriculture Universities, State Departments of Animal Husbandry and NGOs. Various breeds of cattle taken up for conservation are given below:-

In-situ conservation Tharparkar, Punganur

Ex-situ Conservation Kangayam, Nagori, Rathi, Krishna, Valley, Ponwar, Kherigarh, Punganur.