

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1401  
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2007  
MILITARY DAIRY FARMS  
Shaheen Shri Abdul Rashid

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Defence Forces maintain their own dairy farms;
- (b) if so, the number of such farms and the annual expenditure incurred on maintenance of such farms;
- (c) whether the milk supplied by these farms to military units is costlier than the prices offered by the private dairy farms; and
- (d) if so, the justification of maintaining such dairy farms?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) The number of Military Farms being maintained is 43. During the financial year 2005-2006, an expenditure of Rs.169 crore was incurred by Military Farms which includes purchase of milk, hay, maintenance of farms and salary etc.
- (c) As per report of Controller and Auditor General of India for the year ending March 2005, cost of milk produced by Military Farms was slightly higher than the market rates.
- (d) In order to improve their economic viability, Military Farms are being reorganized. Furthermore it has also been decided to close down some military farms. 18 Military Farms have been closed down during 2004-2005 and their assets readjusted/amalgamated with other farms.