

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4085  
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2015  
Common Property Resources  
Girri Shri Maheish

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Common Property Resources (CPRs) like grazing land, harvesting land, village ponds, uncultivable land, barren land, bamboo land have been shrinking gradually for the last one decade;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether shrinking CPRs have made animal husbandry a challenge in rural economy and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to revive the CPRs in rural areas and boost animal husbandry in villages?

**Answer**

(a) & (b) As per the information furnished by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, the area under Permanent Pastures & Other Grazing land has decreased from 10484 thousand hectare (2003-04) to 10240 thousand hectare (2012-13) and the area under Barren & Un-cultivable land has decreased from 17466 thousand hectare (2003-04) to 17284 thousand hectare (2012-13).

(c) & (d) As per the information furnished by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, shrinking Common Property Resources (CPRs) have made animal husbandry a challenge in rural economy and to increase the fodder availability in the country. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has launched the National Livestock Mission in 2014-15. It has four Sub-Missions. One of the Sub-mission is Feed and Fodder Development under which financial assistance is being provided to the States for the following components:

S. No. Name of Modified Components/ New Components

- 1 Establishment of Fodder Block Making Unit/
- 2 Grassland Development including Grass Reserves
- 3 Fodder Seed Procurement and Distribution
- 4 Strengthening of Feed Testing Laboratories
- 5(a) Introduction of hand driven chaff-cutter
- 5(b) Introduction of power driven chaff-cutter
- 6 Establishment of silage making Units
- 7 Demonstration of Azolla cultivation and production units:
- 8 Establishment of by-pass protein production units
- 9 Establishment of Area Specific Mineral Mixture / Feed Pelleting / Feed manufacturing Unit:

In addition to the above, under watershed programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development, activities like the construction of rainwater harvesting structures, soil and moisture conservation, pasture development, afforestation are undertaken as part of the watershed works in the project areas including CPRs. Various impact assessment studies have reported that the implementation of watershed activities has improved the availability of water and fodder in the project areas resulting in improvement in livestock and milk yield.

Further, financial assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development is also provided under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) programme by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture. Besides, there are special programmes, like Accelerated Fodder Development Programme (AFDP) for providing financial assistance to States for fodder development during drought, etc.

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