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Title : Need to create a new Ministry of Fisheries and Animal Husbandry.

SHRI O.S. MANIAN (MAYILADUTHURAI): Sir, I rise to urge upon the Government to establish a separate Ministry for Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries in the larger interest of the nation. Departments under the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries do not get as much attention as required. The total output of animal husbandry accounts for more than 30 per cent of the country's agricultural sector. Livestock and fishery sectors together account for more than 6 per cent of total GDP. India has the highest population of livestock in the world and is also the largest producer of milk. The Government has a National Dairy Plan to achieve a target of 180 million tones of milk production annually by 2021-22. This Plan also proposes to bring 65 per cent of the surplus milk produced under organized sector for procurement as against present 30 per cent. India with a coastal line of 8129 kilometers, 20 lakh square kilometers of Exclusive Economic Zone and 12 lakh million hectares of brackish water bodies has vast potential for developing fisheries. Out of the estimated marine fishery potential of 3.9 million tonnes, only 2.6 million tonnes are tapped. If more fishery potential is tapped, then more than 2 crore fishermen and their families will be benefited. These Departments mainly cater to the needs of rural people who are mostly unorganized. If these Departments are clubbed as one Ministry under a separate Minister, then the sufferings of the people involved in these avocations can be mitigated and addressed to a great extent. The Government of Tamil Nadu under the able leadership of our hon. Chief Minister, Dr. J. Jayalalitha has three separate Ministers, one for the Department of Animal Husbandry, one for the Department of Dairy and another for the Department of Fisheries and they are working efficiently.

I would also like to point out that the Budget allocation of Rs. 2009.37 crore including Plan Outlay for Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries for 2012-13 is insufficient. More funds have to be allocated for developing these sectors rapidly. I once again would like to call upon the Government to establish a separate Ministry for Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries and help the vast population dependent on these sectors for their survival.