

>

Title: Need to constitute a separate Ministry for Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries.

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO (KHAMMAM): I urge upon the Central 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 don't get as much attention as required. The total output of animal husbandry accounts for more than 30 percent of the country's agricultural sector. Livestock and fishery sectors together account for more than 6 percent 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 tonnes of milk production annually by 2021-22. This plan also proposes to bring 65% of the surplus milk produced under organized sector for procurement as against present 30%. India with a coastal line of 8129 kms, 20 lakh square kms of Exclusive Economic Zone and 12 lakh million hectares of brackish water bodies offer 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 2 crore more 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 to a great extent.