

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2821
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24TH MARCH, 2023

INADEQUACY OF COW SHELTER

2821. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA:

SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that cow shelters in various parts of the country are inadequate to manage the cattle population;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government is considering to construct more cow shelters in various parts of the country and provide veterinarians for their health related problems and if not, the reasons therefor ?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)**

(a) to (c) This information is not maintained in the Central Government. However, as per the Article 246(3) of Constitution of India, preservation, protection and improvement of stock and prevention of animal diseases; veterinary training and practice are under State list for which the States have exclusive powers to make laws.

As per Article 243(W) of Constitution of India, the local bodies are responsible for cattle pounds and pinjrapole. Therefore, the State may also endow panchayats to establish and run Cattle Pounds (Kanji Houses)/ Gaushala Shelters (community assets) to keep stray cattle. Many States have established Gaushalas and Shelter houses for stray cattle and provide for feeding of those animals.

In view of the above mentioned constitutional provisions, the State Government has to take appropriate action on cow shelters depending on their demand. Further, Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) has issued advisory on stray animals to all State Governments/ Union Territories vide its letter dated 12 July, 2018. AWBI encourages organizations which keep stray animals by providing grants-in-aid for taking care of the animals within the budget provided by Government of India.
