

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 886
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH JULY, 2023

IMPACT OF DECLINING COVER OF GRASSROOTS ON LIVESTOCK

886. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the rapidly declining cover of grassroots especially, in the semi-arid regions of India, and its impact on the livestock sector in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether an initiative has been taken to conduct a study regarding the components of fodder production during the last five years; and
- (d) the top three States in terms of recovery tactics/afforestation measures for this declining cover?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas of India of June 2021 prepared by Space Applications Centre, the area of degraded land in Semi Arid regions was estimated at 34.85 Million ha, 35.40 Million ha and 36.02 Million ha in 2003-05, 2011-13 and 2018-19 respectively.

(c) The Development, Monitoring and Evaluation Office of NITI Aayog Government of India has submitted its sectoral report on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries sector in July 2021. The report covers the study on the component of fodder production implemented by this department and has made recommendations.

(d) As per the Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas of India of June 2021 prepared by Space Applications Centre, around 23.79% (2018-19), 23.63% (2011-13) and 23.34% (2003-05) of the area undergoing desertification/land degradation with respect to Total Geographical Area (TGA) of the country is contributed by Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Ladakh UT, Jharkhand, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana (in descending order). All other remaining States are contributing less than 1% (individually) w.r.t country TGA.
