

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3758

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE POLICY

NARAYAN DATT TIWARI; SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK; SUBODH MOHITE; UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have finalised the draft National Cooperative policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the salient features thereof;
- (c) whether any committee has been setup to ascertain suggestions and views of the States to incorporate in the policy;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government to encourage the cooperative movement;
- (f) whether the Government have any proposal to convert the cooperative societies into companies;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) the time by which the policy is likely to come into effect?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) The finalisation of the National Policy on Cooperatives is under active consideration of the Government. A Conference of State Ministers of Cooperation was convened on 30.06.2000 at New Delhi to elicit the views of the State Governments on the proposed National Policy on Cooperatives. The draft policy was accepted in principle. However, it was decided to fine tune the policy document by a Group of State Ministers for Cooperation. The group have held two rounds of discussions on the subject. The issue is still under consideration of the group.

(e) The Government is actively considering to replace the existing Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 by new legislation based on recommendations made by the Committee on Model Cooperative Law in order to provide greater functional autonomy to cooperatives and to professionalise the management of these institutions.

(f) & (g) There is a proposal to amend the Companies Act, 1956 providing for the conversion of Multi-State Cooperative Societies into producer companies at their option. As the proposal has not been firmed up as yet, no details can be revealed at this stage.

(h) The Policy would be finalised in view of the recommendations of Group of State Ministers of Cooperation.