

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:311
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2000
MODEL COOPERATIVE BILL
GANTA SRINIVASA RAO

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce the Model Cooperative Bill to remove restrictive provisions on various Central and State Cooperative laws; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed for ensuring autonomous and democratic functioning of the Cooperatives?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a)&(b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) AND (b) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.311 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11 DECEMBER, 2000 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a)&(b): The Multi-State Cooperative Societies Bill, 2000 to replace the existing Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 24.11.2000. The thrust of the Bill is to ensure autonomous and democratic functioning of the Cooperative Societies coming within the purview of the Bill. However, 'Cooperative Societies' is a State subject and State Governments will have to amend their respective laws to ensure autonomous and democratic functioning of the Co-operatives.

In order to ensure autonomous and democratic functioning of cooperatives, it has been decided to formulate a National Policy on Cooperatives. A Conference of State Ministers of Cooperation was convened on 30.6.2000 to elicit the views of the State Governments on the subject. The draft Policy was accepted in principle. However, a group of seven State Ministers of Cooperation has been constituted to fine tune the draft policy document.