

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DISINVESTMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3159
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2003
DISINVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR
ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are considering to explore the possibilities of disinvestment in agricultural sector with a view to improve the condition of farmers of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, whether the Government propose to formulate an action plan to consider the possibilities of disinvestment in agricultural sector; and
- (d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ~~MINISTER~~ OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARI SHOURIE):

(a) to (d) As per the disinvestment policy of the Government, all the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) which are non-strategic are to be disinvested on a case by case basis. PSUs in agricultural sector are not classified as strategic undertakings. The Disinvestment Commission has considered and submitted its report to Government on disinvestment of Government equity in respect of State Farms Corporation of India Ltd. (SFCIL) and National Seeds Corporation Ltd. (NSCL) in the month of April and May 2003 respectively. The Government has not taken any decision on the recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission.