

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3484

ANSWERED ON:18.04.2005

ANNOUNCEMENT OF BENEFITS FOR BIG FARMERS AND LANDLORDS

Barman Shri Ranen;Baxla Shri Joachim

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the various sops announced by the Government for the benefits of big farmers and landlords and very little of this trickled down to small farmers;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of concessions are availed by Big, Medium and Marginal farmers in the last three years;
- (d) whether the Government is satisfied with the concessions; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) to (e): The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation implements a number of schemes for the enhancement of agricultural production and productivity which, in turn, gives benefits to the farmers including big, medium, small and marginal farmers. The major schemes include Macro management of Agriculture consisting of 27 schemes for production of cereals and coarse cereals, sugarcane, jute, watershed development, horticulture and cooperation, On Farm Water Management for Increasing Crop Production in Eastern India, Technology Mission on Cotton, Technology Mission on Coconut and Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States including Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal.

Under Risk Management, schemes like national Agriculture Insurance Scheme, Minimum Support Price, Market Intervention Scheme as safety nets for farmers are being implemented. More recently, Government have announced a number of initiatives to enhance credit availability for the agriculture sector.

Horticulture is another thrust area identified for focused attention. The Department is implementing a scheme viz. Technology Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture for the North Eastern Region including Sikkim, J&K, HP and Uttaranchal.

The benefits of assistance given under various schemes accrue to not only big farmers but also medium, small and marginal farmers. Studies have shown that the share of small and marginal farmers in total subsidies in agriculture is not lower than their share in operated area. According to one study, during 1999-2000 the share of marginal and small farmers in total subsidies was 36.4% compared with their share of 36% in operated area. In regard to medium farmers the share in total agriculture subsidy was 51.8% compared with their share of 49.1% in operated area. The share of large farmers in total subsidy was 11.8% compared with their share of 14.8% in operated area.