

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1480

ANSWERED ON:10.03.2008

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON FARMERS

Dube Shri Ramesh;Francis George Shri K.;Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Commission on farmers has submitted its report to the Government;
- (b) if so, the details of the main recommendations of the Commission;
- (c) whether the Government has accepted the recommendations made by the Commission; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to implement the recommendations?

Answer

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

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b)to(d): The National Commission on Farmers (NCF) submitted five reports to the Government alongwith the Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers. Based on the recommendations of NCF, as contained in the Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers, the Government has approved the National Policy for Farmers 2007 which has already been laid on the Table of the House in November 2007. The recommendations made by the Commission, as accepted by the Government and incorporated in the National Policy for Farmers include, inter alia, asset reforms in respect of land, water, livestock, fisheries and bioresources; support services and inputs like application of frontier technologies; agricultural biosecurity system; supply of good quality seeds and disease-free planting material; issue of soil health passbooks to the farmers and integrated pest management system; region and crop specific implements and machinery; support services for women like crèches, child care centres, nutrition, health and training; timely, adequate and easy reach of institutional credit at reasonable interest rates and farmer-friendly insurance instruments; use of Information and Communication Technology and setting up of farm schools to revitalize agricultural extension; coverage of farmers under a comprehensive national social security scheme; effective implementation of MSP across the country and establishing community foodgrain banks; development of agricultural market infrastructure and terminal markets for agriculture; curriculum reforms in agricultural universities; special categories of farming like organic farming and contract farming; rural non-farm employment initiatives for farm households; and integrated approach for rural energy, etc. Many of the provisions contained in the National Policy for Farmers 2007 are already under implementation by various Central Ministries and Departments and the States through the on-going schemes and programmes. Recently Government launched two new schemes i.e. National Food Security Mission and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana which are expected to go a long way in realizing the provisions of the National Policy for Farmers 2007, through state specific de-centralized strategy taking into account the agro-climatic and other local conditions for development of agriculture sector.