

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:543

ANSWERED ON:04.05.2010

LOW COST AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and percentage of small and marginal farmers in the country, State- wise;
- (b) whether cost effective technologies suitable for small land holdings have been developed by the agricultural research institutions in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to promote and assist small and marginal farmers to adopt such technologies; and
- (e) the measures being taken by the Government to make small land holding more viable?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 543 DUE FOR REPLY ON 4TH MAY, 2010.

(a): As per the latest Agriculture Census 2005-06, the State-wise number and percentage of marginal and small operational holdings are given in the Annexure.

(b) & (c): The Research Institutes under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) have developed several implements, machineries and technologies appropriate for small and marginal farmers such as Animal drawn Equipment for tillage, Single row manually operated inclined plate planter, Direct paddy seeder, Manual rice transplanter, Improved harvesting tools, Self-propelled vertical conveyor reaper, Solar tunnel dryer for horticultural crops/fruits and Low cost greenhouse structures.

(d): The ICAR through its Institutes and All India Coordinated Research Projects on Farm Implements and Machinery and Utilization of Animal Energy carry out front line demonstrations on the fields of marginal and small farmers to adopt such technologies. Besides, the knowledge is disseminated through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), kisan melas, exhibitions and training programmes on a regular basis in different parts of the country to create awareness about improved agricultural technologies.

(e): The Government has taken several measures to make small land holdings more viable. These include adoption of modern technologies and practices like multiple cropping, intercropping and integrated farming systems. A number of tools and equipments for different operations on small farms have been developed and introduced. Greenhouse technology has been developed for efficient nursery raising, floriculture and other off- season high value crops.