

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:67
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2010
LAND REFORMS TO ERADICATE RURAL POVERTY
Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cause of land reform was taken with a view to eradicate rural poverty during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the details of achievements made so far in this regard, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Planning Commission has expressed their resentment in regard to the work and this achievements; and
- (d) the reaction of the Government thereto and the action likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI)

(a) to (d): Land and its management falls within the exclusive legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the respective States as provided under Entry No. 18 of List-II (State list) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. The role of the Central Government in the field of Land Reforms is only of an advisory and Coordinating nature. However, implementation of Land Reforms Programmes is reviewed from time to time at various forums including Conferences of Revenue Ministers and Revenue Secretaries of the States/UTs organized by the Rural Development. The State Governments/UT Administrations have been requested from time to time for effective implementation of land reform programmes/schemes including distribution of ceiling surplus land. Based on the information received from the States/UTs, the details of the ceiling surplus land distributed State-wise are indicated in Annexure-I.

The subject matter has, however, been considered at the highest level. In order to get comprehensive recommendation on the matter, the following two high level bodies were constituted.

- i) A "Committee on State Agrarian Relations and the unfinished Task in Land Reforms" was constituted under the Chairmanship of Minister of Rural Development.
- ii) A "National Council for Land Reforms" Constituted under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister.

The composition, terms of reference, etc of the Committee and the Council were notified in the Official Gazette on 9th January, 2008. The Committee has since submitted its report. The Report of the Committee is being examined by the Committee of Secretaries (CoS) before it is to be placed before the 'National Council for Land Reforms' constituted under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister for its consideration and directions. The Council may lay down broad guidelines and policy recommendations on land reforms, based on the recommendations of the Committee.

This Department has not received any communication from the Planning Commission expressing their resentment in this regard.