

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2165

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2010

LOSS OF INTEREST IN FARMING

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of farmers prefer to give up farming due to loss/lesser profit in agriculture;
- (b) if so, the percentage thereof, Statewise;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any study to find out the reasons for farmers' disinterest in farming activities; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (c): There is no report on farmers giving up agriculture due to loss /less profitability. However, as per the report on Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers entitled `Some Aspects of Farming` of the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) conducted during 2003, about 40% farmer households did not like farming due to various reasons; including 26.5% of farmer households who did not like farming due to lesser profit in agriculture. State-wise details are given in Annexure.

The National Policy of Farmers, 2007 approved by the Government of India aims to focus on the economic well-being of farmers by improving the economic viability of farming in addition to increasing production and productivity. Several programmes such as National Food Security Mission, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna, Macro Management Mode of Agriculture and National Horticulture Mission, etc. are also under implementation to incentivise farmers to engage themselves profitably in the farming activities.

(d) & (e): During 2003, a comprehensive socio-economic study of the Indian farmers was conducted by NSSO through `Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers` in the rural areas. One of the Reports of the survey entitled `Some Aspects of Farming` gives details on certain important aspects of farming, including reasons for farmers` disinterest in the farming activities. State-wise percentages of farmer households not liking farming due to various reasons are given in Annexure.