

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4382
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2010
COMMUNICATION DEVICES FOR FARMING COMMUNITY
Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide affordable communication devices to the farming community for dissemination of information in the country; and

(b) 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) & (b): No, Madam. Presently, the Government does not have any proposal to provide affordable communication devices as such to the farming community for dissemination of information.

However, there are a number of current Information Technology related schemes undertaken by the Department of Agriculture and Co-operation which are aimed at providing information to the farmers on various activities in the Agriculture value chain through various modes of delivery including Kisan Call Centres (KCC), webportals and electronic media. Some other initiatives for providing information by Short Messaging Service (SMS) have also been taken.