

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3244
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2009
AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES
Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether agricultural cooperatives have been given financial grants by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the grant is utilised in the proper manner;
- (d) whether any grant has been given by the Government to agricultural cooperatives for downstream industries;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government monitors the utilisation of such funds by way of having representatives; and
- (g) 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 (e): Yes, Madam. As per the recommendations of the Vaidyanathan Committee, the Government of India has approved a Revival Package for Short Term Cooperative Credit Structure (STCCS). Revival Package envisages an out lay of Rs. 13,597 crore for recapitalization of STCCS.

An amount of Rs.6072.71 crore has been released by NABARD as Government of India share for recapitalization of 37,599 PACS in ten states, while the State Government had released Rs.608.13 crore as their share.

Under the Central Sector Scheme for Cooperative Education and Training, assistance has been given to National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) and National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT) for implementing Cooperative Education & Training in the country. During the 10th Five Year Plan Rs. 216.17 crore was released. An out lay of Rs. 149.00 crore is proposed for 11th Five Year Plan.

The Government of India also implements its cooperative development programmes, through the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). The programmes/ schemes being implemented through NCDC are

- (i) Integrated Cooperative Development Projects in selected districts,
- (ii) assistance to cooperative marketing, processing and storage etc. in cooperatively under-developed/least developed states/ union territories, and
- (iii) share capital participation in growers`/ weavers` cooperative spinning mills. During the 10th Five Year Plan Rs. 143.15 crore was released. An out lay of Rs. 320.00 crore is proposed for 11th Five Year Plan.

The Central Government also provides grants to the National Federation of State Cooperative Banks (NFSCOB) and National Federation of Agricultural and Rural Development Banks (NCARDBF). During the 10th Five Year Plan, Rs.1.20 crore was released to these federations. Further, an amount of Rs. 71.60 lakhs has been released so far, in the 11th Five Year Plan.

The grants are released to these organizations on the basis of utilization certificates duly signed by the Chief Executive of the organization and statutory audit report stating that the funds are utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned.

(f) to (g): Under the revival package for STCCS, financial assistance to States is released subject to legal and institutional reforms for democratic, self-reliant and efficient functioning of cooperative institutions. Section 48 of the MSCS Act,2002 provides for nomination of the Central Government or a State Government on Board of such multi state cooperative society which receive share holding or grant from the Central Government or a State Government, as the case may be.