

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4273
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009
FARMERS IN COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES
Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is encouraging the farmers to become members of cooperative societies in farming; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh?

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): Yes, Madam.

(b): Government is implementing a central sector scheme for cooperative Education and Training through National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT) to increase cooperative awareness among the people including the farmers to use the services of cooperative in appropriate manner. This encourages the farmers to become members of cooperative societies and use its services. Further, Central Government is also implementing an Integrated Cooperative Development Programme (ICDP) through National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) for the overall cooperative development of the District, through cooperative network. The scheme aims at development of cooperatives in agriculture and allied sectors, transforming cooperatives as multi-purpose entities and promoting horizontal and vertical functional linkages so as to enable the cooperatives to cater to the overall needs of rural community.

The information sought in the question about state-wise details is not maintained in the Department. However, Government of Andhra Pradesh has stated that in Andhra Pradesh, 2,295 Joint Farming Cooperatives are registered with a total membership of 1,92,716 covering a total area of 2,62,776 acres. Out of these, 898 societies were extended finance assistance to a tune of Rs.796.75 lakhs.