

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:281  
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2011  
RECOMMENDATIONS OF NCF  
De Dr. Ratna

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the major recommendations made by the National Commission on Farmers (NCF);
- (b) the status of implementation of the recommendations;
- (c) whether the main problems of the farmers still persist in spite of the followup action by various stakeholders on the recommendations of the Commission;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the comprehensive measures taken by the Government to resolve the various problems being faced by the farmers?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 281 DUE FOR REPLY ON 23RD AUGUST, 2011.

(a) & (b): The major recommendations of the National Commission on Farmers (NCF) were contained in the Draft National Policy for Farmers submitted by it. The accepted recommendations figuring under National Policy for Farmers, 2007 (NPF) inter alia include Asset Reforms to Empower Farmers with regard to Land, Water, Livestock, Fisheries & Bio resources; Support Services including Science & Technology, Agricultural Bio Security, Agro-Meteorology, Climate Change, Inputs & Services, Credit Insurance Cooperatives, Extension Training & Knowledge Connectivity, Marketing & Processing; Specific Initiatives for Special Categories of Farmers such as Tribal Farmers, Plantation Farmers etc.; Institutional Support for Encouraging Organic Farming, Green Agriculture etc.; Special Attention to Areas Experiencing Agrarian Distress and Enhancement in Income of Small & Marginal Farmers through Cooperative Farming, Group Farming, Contract Farming etc.

Final Plan of Action for Operationalization of National Policy on Farmers, 2007 was circulated to all concerned. This Plan identifies further steps/actions that need to be taken. Out of 201 further steps identified in the Plan of Action, action on 111 points has been completed.

(c) to (e): Problems faced by farmers are multi-dimensional and dynamic which are being resolved gradually with joint efforts of the Government of India and the State Governments. NPF, 2007 provides roadmap for mitigating problems of farmers.

Comprehensive initiatives of Government of India to resolve the problems faced by farmers include Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana and National Food Security Mission with outlays of Rs.23027.98 crore and Rs.5550 crores respectively during the 11th Five Year Plan. In addition to this, schemes like National Horticulture Mission, Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms, Micro Irrigation, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme etc. have been continued from the 10th Plan period. In recent years, Minimum Support Price (MSP) of various crops has been increased substantially to ensure that farming continues to be remunerative vocation.

Besides this, the Government of India has tried to ameliorate condition of farmers facing agrarian distress by launching Rehabilitation Package for Distressed Farmers with an outlay of Rs.16979 crore and Agricultural Debt Waiver & Debt Relief Scheme benefiting 3.69 crore farmers involving a relief of Rs.65.318 crore. Interest rate on agricultural loans has been reduced to 4% for farmers repaying their loan in time. There has also been substantial growth in credit availability to farmers.

These initiatives have resulted in desired outcomes as evidenced by record production of 241.56 million tones of food-grains during the year 2010-11. The agricultural sector has achieved a cumulative growth rate of 3.2% during the first four years of the 11th Plan, with a 6.6.% growth rate in 2010-11.

During 2011-12, new initiatives including Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern Region, Rainfed Area Development Programme, Integrated Development of 60,000 pulses villages in rainfed Areas, Promotion of Oil Palm, Initiative on Vegetable Clusters, Nutri-cereals, National Mission for Protein Supplements and Accelerated Fodder Development Programme have been introduced, which

will further boost growth of agriculture sector to enable it to play its desired role in economic growth and development of the country and simultaneously in improving income and quality of life of farmers.