

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1193
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2011
LAND HOLDINGS OF FARMERS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether most of the land holdings in the country are small in size;
- (b) if so, whether due to smaller land holdings, farmers particularly, small farmers are suffering;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to make farming on small land holdings remunerative?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a): As per latest Agriculture Census 2005-06, marginal and small holdings (operated area below 2.0 hectares) constituted 83.29 percent of total holdings with 41.14 percent of operated area in the Country.

(b) to (d): The Government has taken a number of measures for making agriculture sector more vibrant and dynamic to increase production and productivity of various crops so as to alleviate sufferings of farmers including small and marginal farmers. Steps taken to make small land holdings more remunerative include (i) promoting adoption of modern technologies and practices like multiple cropping, intercropping and integrated farming systems (ii) disseminating knowledge through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), Kisan Melas, exhibitions and training programmes in different parts of the country to create awareness about improved agricultural technologies (iii) strengthening farm credit delivery system for providing credit at affordable rate of interest to support the resource requirements of the agricultural sector (iv) providing adequate support services to farmers to make agriculture a remunerative vocation on sustainable basis, etc.