

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:45
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012
KRISHAK MITRAS
Choudhry Smt. Shruti

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has appointed 'Krishak Mitras' in all panchayats and exempted marginal and small farmers from paying stamp duty on land mortgage deeds and waived the recovery of the loans raised for soil conservation and land development to benefit them; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Haryana?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No, Madam.

Government of India has not appointed any 'Krishak Mitras' in Panchayats. However, under Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms' modified during 2010-11, a provision for identification of one Farmer Friend for every 2 villages covering all States has been made. The Government of India provides Rs.2000.00 per Farmer Friend per year under the Scheme, which is supplemented equally by the State Government. This amount is to be used for meeting contingency expenditure which the Farmer's Friend incurs for discharge of his duties. Thirteen States have reported identification of Farmer Friends in their states so far. However, Haryana has not reported identification of any Farmer Friend till now. State-wise number of Farmer Friends identified during 2011-12 is given in Annexure-I.

Under the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme (ADWDRS), 2008, all agricultural loans disbursed by schedules commercial banks, regional rural banks and cooperative credit institutions up to March 31, 2007 and remaining overdue as on December 31, 2007 and which remained unpaid until February 29, 2008. Some State Governments also have taken similar initiatives in specific cases in the past

Rates of Stamp Duty on land mortgage deeds are fixed by the State Governments and these vary from State to State.