

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:275
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2012
INCOME OF FARMERS
Shekhar Shri Neeraj

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the daily earnings of more than 65 percent of farmers` family in the country is less than Rs. 20;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise alongwith the reaction of the Union Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take any fresh initiatives to ensure profit in agricultural profession and to review the agricultural policy in the light of the above facts;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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. 275 DUE FOR REPLY ON 24TH APRIL, 2012.

(a) & (b): The National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) conducted the Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers during 2003 in the rural areas collecting information, inter alia, on receipts and expenses relating to cultivation, farming of animals, non-farm business and wages. The average monthly income per farmer household at all India level during the year 2002-03 was Rs. 2115. The average monthly income per farmer household by source in each of the major States during 2002-03 was as given annexure.

(c) to (e): With a view to increase the production, productivity and income of the farming sector, Government is implementing through State Governments the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses and Maize (ISOPOM), besides others. Under these schemes emphasis is given to easy and reliable access to inputs such as quality seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, irrigation, suitable technology, extension services, support infrastructure and innovative marketing systems. Further, to ensure remunerative price, Government announces Minimum Support Price (MSP) for agricultural commodities every year. National Policy for Farmers, 2007 also has provisions to improve economic viability of farming. In order to improve credit flow to agriculture sector, Government of India decided in June, 2004 to double flow of agriculture credit in three years with reference to base year 2003-04. Flow of agriculture credit has consistently exceeded the target since 2003-04. To facilitate flow of credit to farmers and increase financial inclusion, Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) are being provided to farmers. From Kharif 2006-07, farmers are receiving crop loan up to principal amount of Rs. 3 lakh at 7% rate of interest. In addition, since 2009-10, Government has been providing 1% interest subvention to farmers who repay loans on time. This subvention was increased to 2% in 2010-11 and 3% in 2011-12. Thus, effective rate of interest on crop loan up to Rs. 3 lakh for farmers who repay on time has come down to 4% per annum.