

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5289

ANSWERED ON:08.05.2012

AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of farmers, small and marginal farmers in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether any cost effective technology suitable for farming on small land holdings have been developed by the Agricultural Research Institutions in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to promote and assist small and marginal farmers to adopt such technologies?

Answer

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

- (a): The number small, marginal and other holdings in various States is given at Annexure-I.
- (b) & (c): The National Agricultural Research System (NARS) comprising mainly Agricultural Research Institutions of the Indian Council of agricultural Research (ICAR) and the State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) have developed a number of cost effective and scale neutral technologies that are viable for farming on small land holdings in the diverse agro-climatic zones of the country. Details of some of the salient technologies are given at Annexure-II.
- (d): In order to promote and assist small and marginal farmers to adopt the cost effective technologies suitable for farming on small land holdings developed by research institutions in the country the Government is implementing a number of agricultural extension programme in the country viz Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms (ATMA), Mass Media Support to Agricultural Extension, Kisan Call Centres, Agri- clinics & Agri-business Centres, Exhibitions and Fairs apart from the schemes implemented by concerned subject matter divisions of DAC and Krishi Vigyan Kendras under the ICAR. The Scheme guidelines of ATMA Scheme provide that at least 50% beneficiaries must be Small and Marginal Farmers.