

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:126

ANSWERED ON:21.08.2012

AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVES

Gangaram Shri Awale Jaywant;Jaiswal Dr. Sanjay

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the problems being faced by the agricultural co-operative societies in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government;
- (c) the norms for registering multi-state societies along with the number of these societies registered so far;
- (d) the funds released to the States during the current year including Uttar Pradesh for accelerating the co-operative movement;
- (e) whether there is any proposal for a uniform agricultural co-operative policy and dovetailing it with the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 126 DUE FOR REPLY ON 21ST AUGUST, 2012.

(a) & (b): Agriculture cooperative societies generally face problems such as lack of democratic control, excessive dependence on government assistance, poor deposit mobilization, lack of professional management, lack of active member participation, uneconomic level of business, etc. Government of India has taken various measures to address the aforesaid problems including, inter-alia, framing of national policy on cooperatives, enactment of Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) Act, 2002, assistance for cooperative education and training, assistance through NCDC for development of cooperatives, implementation of recommendations of the Vaidyanathan Committee, enactment of the Constitution (97th Amendment) Act 2011, etc.

(c): The main provisions relating to registration of a multi-state co-operative society, as provided in the MSCS Act, 2002, are that its main object should be to serve the interest of members in more than one State and its bye-laws should provide for social and economic betterment of its members through self help and mutual aid in accordance with cooperative principles. As on 13.08.2012, 764 Multi-State Co-operative Societies have been registered under the provisions of the MSCS Act, 2002.

(d): Government of India does not operate any scheme under which funds are released directly to the States for development of cooperatives. However, grants-in-aid are provided to National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) / National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT) and NCDC under two Schemes viz. Central Sector Scheme for Cooperative Education and Training and Central Sector Scheme for National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) Programmes for development of cooperatives. NCUI has informed that no funds have been released by them to any State for Cooperative Education and Training during 2012-13. The amount of funds released by NCDC under the Central Sector Scheme for NCDC Programmes for development of cooperatives etc. in various states during 2012-13 (upto 15.08.2012) is at Annexure.

(e) & (f): No such proposal is under consideration of the Government at present.