

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1720

ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012

CENSUS ON FARMERS

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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has recently conducted any census to ascertain the number and condition of farmers/cultivators in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the numbers of farmers including small and marginal in the country, State-wise and category-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to launch a pension scheme for the farmers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of other relief and welfare measures taken/being taken by the Government to mitigate the hardships being faced by the farmers and to improve their condition in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) & (b): The Agriculture Census in India is conducted at an interval of five years to collect data on various aspects of operational holdings in the country. An operational holding is defined as all land which is used wholly or partly for agricultural production and is operated as one technical unit by one person alone or with others without regard to the title, legal form, size or location.

Based on the provisional results of latest Agriculture Census 2010-11, a statement giving State-wise number of operational holdings in different categories viz., marginal, small, semi-medium, medium, and large, is placed at annexure-I.

(c) & (d): No Madam. However, Government is implementing National Social Assistance Programme comprising (i) Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme,(ii) Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme, (iii) Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme, (iv) National Family Benefit Scheme and (v) Annapurna. Farmers are also taking benefit of these schemes after fulfilling the conditions associated with each of the Schemes.

(e): To mitigate hardships of farmers and improve their condition, the Government provides assistance through various Schemes such as National Food Security Mission, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Horticulture Mission, Revised Macro Management of Agriculture etc. To facilitate flow of credit to farmers, Government is providing Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to all eligible and willing farmers in time bound manner. Reserve Bank of India has also issued comprehensive guidelines to banks for providing debt relief to farmers affected by natural calamities including floods, droughts etc. Also, Government provides subsidies on seeds, micro irrigation systems, premium on crop insurance and fertilizer etc.