

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1822
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012
INCOME OF FARMERS
Tirkey Shri Manohar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study to ascertain the average annual income of farmers working in the agriculture sector;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the annual growth rate of income of farmers in the country has marginally increased since the last decade;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to increase the income of farmers in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): At the request of Ministry of Agriculture, the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducted a comprehensive "Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers" during 2003 in the rural areas collecting information, inter-alia, on receipts and expenses relating to cultivation, farming of animal, non-farm business and wages. The average monthly income per farmer household at all India level during the year 2002-03 was Rs. 2115.

(c) & (d): The next "Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers" is scheduled for 2013.

(e): The Government has taken several initiatives to make farming viable and sustainable. These include stepping up public investment in agriculture; bridging yield gaps through various schemes such as, National Food Security Mission, Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India, Integrated Development of 60,000 Pulse villages in Rainfed areas, Promotion on Oil Palm, National Mission for Protein Supplements, Accelerated Fodder Development Programme, etc.

The Government has implemented Rehabilitation Package for distressed farmers. Also to address the indebtedness problems of farmers, a scheme of Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Policy for farmers was announced in 2008-09. Increased availability of agricultural credit at reduced interest rate for timely repayments has also been ensured. The target for 2012-13 has been fixed at Rs. 5,75,000 crore, as against the target of Rs. 4,75,000 crore, for 2011-12. To facilitate flow of credit to farmers and increase financial inclusion, Government is providing Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) to all eligible and willing farmers in time bound manner.