

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:119

ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013

INCOME OF FARMERS

Ganpatrao Shri Jadhav Prataprao; Rama Devi Smt.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted `Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers` in 2012 to calculate the average income of farmers;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the survey;
- (c) whether the average income of farmers in comparison to the workers in industrial and service sectors is generally low;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the efforts made by the Government to increase the average income of farmers in the country?

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. 119 DUE FOR REPLY ON 5TH MARCH, 2013.

(a) to (d): No, Madam. However, in 2002-03, the NSSO conducted Situation Assessment Survey covering, inter-alia, level of living, farming practices, possession of productive assets, awareness and access to modern technology, resource availability, indebtedness, etc. in the rural areas. It was found that at all India level, the average monthly income of farmers from all sources – cultivation, wages, farming of animals, non-farm business etc. was Rs.2115.

(e): Government has taken several steps to revitalize agriculture sector and improve condition of farming community on sustainable basis by increasing investment, improving farm practices, rural infrastructure and delivery of credit, technology and other inputs, extension, marketing etc. Various programmes/schemes for the development of agriculture sector are being implemented in a decentralized manner with flexibility to State Governments to formulate and implement appropriate projects to suit their specific requirements. The focus of government is primarily on expansion of farm income, creation of non-farm income opportunities, improvement in productivity of rainfed agriculture, increasing coverage of farming areas under protective irrigation and forging appropriate backward and forward linkages. Other measures taken by the government for the benefit of farmers include enhancement in minimum support prices of agricultural commodities, increase in credit flow to agriculture sector, debt waiver/relief, interest subvention on crop loans, etc.