

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3325
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2013
SUBSIDY BY TOBACCO BOARD
Vishwanath Shri katti Ramesh

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the tobacco farmers receive Central and State subsidies through the Tobacco Board;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the nature and amount of the subsidy being provided to the tobacco cultivators;
- (c) whether subsidy is being provided for all types of tobacco cultivations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the comprehensive package being provided to the tobacco farmers in all forms?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a& b) Madam, only the FCV tobacco farmers receive subsidies through the Tobacco Board. An amount of Rs. 6.05 crore was allocated under the head of extension and development schemes to the growers for farm mechanisation, improvement of yield and quality of tobacco, improvement of curing practices, farm trials and other extension programmes during the financial year 2012-13.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No comprehensive package is being provided to the tobacco farmers. However, Tobacco Board implements many extension and development schemes to improve the productivity & quality of Indian tobacco and makes it more competitive in the international markets. Tobacco Board has also provided relief assistance to the FCV tobacco growers by way of compensation for crop/ barn damage of interest subsidy on additional loans given by the scheduled banks whose barns and crop were damaged due to occurrence of heavy rains/ cyclones. Tobacco Board has also created a Grower Welfare Fund to assist FCV tobacco growers in the event of growers death and for children education, girl child marriage and treatment for major illnesses etc.