

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1299

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013

FARM MECHANISATION

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is lagging behind in the promotion and utilisation of modern farm machinery in the field of agriculture in comparison to Japan, United Kingdom and other developed countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor and its impact on agricultural production;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to launch a Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation (SMAM) to improve access of new technologies to the farmers during the current Five Year Plan;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the funds earmarked and the facilities proposed to be provided thereunder?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Farm power available per hectare of land is one of the important indices of progress in agriculture production and productivity. Farm power availability in Indian agriculture was 1.5 kW/ha in 2005-06 which is substantially lower as compared to developed countries like Japan, USA, UK, France and Germany. It indicates that India is behind the developed countries in terms of utilization of farm power which is mainly due to the fact that the guiding principle in mechanising Indian agriculture has been to maintain a socially desirable mix of human labour, draught animals and mechanical power and growth of agricultural mechanization has been closely linked with overall agricultural development of different agro-climatic regions of the country.

There has been positive co-relationship between farm power availability and increased productivity. Those States where availability of farm power is more have, in general, higher productivity as compared to other states.

(c) to (e): In order to lay special emphasis on farm mechanization and to bring more inclusiveness, a dedicated Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization for the XII Plan has been proposed with an estimated outlay of Rs. 2000 crores for the entire plan period. The Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization will provide assistance for Promotion and Strengthening of Agricultural Mechanisation through Training, Testing and Demonstration, Post Harvest Technology and Management; Procurement of selected Agriculture Machinery and Equipments; Establishment of Farm Machinery Banks for Custom Hiring; Establishing Hi-Tech Productive Equipment Centres to Target Low Productive Agricultural Regions and Assistance for increasing farm mechanization.