

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2922

ANSWERED ON:27.08.2013

DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATIVE SECTOR

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

(a) whether the Government had taken any specific measures for the promotion and development of cooperative sector in the rural areas of the country including West Bengal and North Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details and the achievements thereof;

(c) the names of the States which have made the required changes in cooperative laws after the enactment of the Constitution Amendment Act;

(d) whether the Government proposes to make amendments in the existing laws of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) Act; and

(e) if so, the details and the objectives thereof along with the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Government of India has taken various steps for the promotion and development of cooperative sector to make them viable, vibrant and democratic organizations and promote active participation of members to face the challenges of competitive global economy. These include, inter-alia, framing of the National Policy on Cooperatives, Enactment of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) Act, 2002, Enactment of the Constitution (97th Amendment) Act, 2011 and implementing a package for revival of Short-term Rural Cooperative Credit Structure in the country. During 11th Plan Period, Rs.10050.44 crores amounting to around 49% of the total releases of Rs. 20649.87 crores have been disbursed by National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) in cooperatively under developed/least developed states.

Separate budgetary allocation in the Plan scheme is made for North-Eastern States. Subsidy to the tune of 25% and 20% respectively is provided to Cooperative Societies in North-Eastern States and West Bengal under the Central Sector Scheme. Upto 31st March, 2013, cumulative assistance provided to North-Eastern States and West Bengal was to the tune of Rs.328.72 crores and Rs.1330.30 crores respectively. Further, the Government of India is implementing a special scheme for intensification of cooperation education in cooperatively under developed states including the North- Eastern region through National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI). NCUI has established 7 field projects namely Aizwal (Mizoram), Thobal, Jorhat, Kohima, Morigoan, Shillong, Sikkim are being running in the North-Eastern Region.

(c): As per available information, 15 States, namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have already amended their State Cooperative Societies Acts in consonance with the Constitution (97th Amendment) Act, 2011 while two States, namely, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu have done so by issuing Ordinances.

(d) & (e): The Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2010 was introduced in Lok Sabha on 15th November, 2010. The objective of the Bill is to further amend the provisions of the Multi-state Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 to keep the legislation in tune with the changing economic policies and to facilitate the multi-state co-operative societies to take advantage of the new and emerging opportunities. These amendments are intended to enhance the public faith in the cooperatives and to ensure better accountability of the management towards its members and law of the land.