

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2940
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2013
AGRICULTURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP
Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether agricultural entrepreneurship is being promoted and is swiftly gaining momentum in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is promoting agricultural entrepreneurship; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): Over 80% of farmer households in the country are small and marginal farmers with land holding of less than two hectares. Due to fragmentation of holdings, it is not economically viable for farmers to adopt latest technology and the advanced package of practices. Small and marginal farmers also face adverse marketing conditions both as buyer of inputs as well as seller of their agricultural produce. With a view to deriving the benefits of economies of scale farmers are encouraged to form Self Help Groups/Farmer Producer Organizations/Producer Organizations/Joint Liability Groups etc. and register under any statute to take up farming activities in an aggregated manner as well as for marketing of their agricultural produce.

(c): Yes, Madam.

(d): NABARD is providing loans to such registered SHGs/FPOs/POs/JLGs normally for a period upto 7 years with a moratorium of 1-2 years and the quantum of assistance can be upto 90% of the total project cost and it may vary from project to project.

Besides, a framework for supporting Public Private Partnership for Integrated Agricultural Development (PPPIAD) for funding under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) has been put in place for facilitating large scale integrated projects led by Private Sector in Agriculture and Allied Sectors.