

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3817
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2014
LAND HOLDINGS
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the size of land holdings is reducing due to increase in the number of dependents in the agriculture sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the efforts made by the Government to address the problem?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a) & (b): The number, operated area and average size of operational holdings in the country based on the results of quinquennial Agriculture Censuses conducted during 2000-01, 2005-06 and 2010-11 are given in the following table:

Item	Reference year of Agriculture Census		
	2001-01	2005-06	2010-11
Number of operational holdings	119931017	129222237	138348461
Operated Area (in hectare)	159435519	158322983	159591855
Average size of operational holding (in hectare)	1.33	1.23	1.15

Excluding Jharkhand.

(c): To benefit the agriculture sector, the Government is promoting adoption of modern technologies and practices like multiple cropping, intercropping and integrated farming systems, etc. Assistance is provided to farmers through various schemes such as National Food Security Mission, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Horticulture Mission, Revised Macro Management of Agriculture etc. To facilitate flow of credit to farmers, Government provides Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to all eligible and willing farmers in a time bound manner. Also, subsidies are provided on seeds, micro irrigation systems, premium on crop insurance and fertilizer etc. The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act to enhance rural livelihood security of the households in the rural areas of the country.