

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2017  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2009  
MARGINAL FARMERS  
Verma Shri Sajjan Singh

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

(a) the percentage of farmers in the country owning less than one acre of agricultural land and earning their living through agriculture; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to assist such farmers?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): As per Agriculture Census 2000-01, the percentage of operational holdings operating 'less than 0.5 hectares' of agricultural land were 42.74% of the total operational holdings.

(b): The Government provides financial incentives, grants, concessions to the farmers with special emphasis on holdings of marginal farmers through various Schemes such as National Food Security Mission, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Macro Management, National Horticulture Mission and Technology Mission for Horticulture for the North Eastern States. Central Government also provides subsidies on seeds, micro irrigation systems, machinery, premium on crop insurance and fertilizer, etc.

To create awareness about agricultural technologies Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) are organizing large number of extension activities like kissan melas/ kissan gosthties, awareness camps, publication of extension literature and radio and TV talks.