

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4074
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2009
COOPERATIVE SECTOR
Kashyap Shri Virender;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether elections to various rural and urban units of the cooperative sector are not held on time and the tenure of Administrators has not been stipulated;
- (b) if so, the details of States which hold elections on time in the said units;
- (c) whether the Government intend to make any legal provision to make time bound elections compulsory in the cooperative sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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): "Cooperative Societies" is a State Subject under Entry 32 of the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. The States, therefore, have enacted their own Cooperative Societies Acts to regulate the functioning, inter-alia, holding the elections, of cooperative societies coming within their territorial jurisdiction. The Central Government has no legislative or executive jurisdiction over the cooperative societies registered under the States Acts. However, in many of the States, elections to the cooperative societies are not held in time and the Administrators continue to manage the affairs of such cooperative societies.

(b): The specific details regarding holding of elections on time by the States are not maintained by the Central Government.

(c) & (d): In order to ensure the democratic, autonomous and professional functioning of cooperatives, the Government has introduced the Constitution (One Hundred and Eleventh Amendment) Bill, 2009 in Lok Sabha on 30.11.2009. The Bill, inter-alia, provides for conduct of elections before expiry of the term of the board. The Bill also provides for supersession of board for a limited period, on reasonable and tangible grounds, in the cases where the Government have share holding or have provided loan or financial assistance or any guarantee, for a period not exceeding one year for the cooperative societies doing the business of banking and six months for other cooperative societies.