

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:462
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009
ACHIEVEMENT IN LAND REFORMS
Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the achievement made with regard to land reforms in the country during the period of Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise;
- (b) whether there is any plan to distribute lands to the landless people belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in various States;
- (c) if so, the details of the land distributed during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has any agency to monitor or supervise and give guidance to the process of land reform works being done by the State Governments; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI)

(a) to (e): Land and its management falls within the exclusive legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the respective States as provided under Entry No.18 of List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. The role of the Central Government in the field of land reforms is only of an advisory and coordinating nature. However, implementation of Land Reforms Programmes is reviewed from time to time at various fora including Conferences of Revenue Ministers and Revenue Secretaries of the States/UTs organized by the Ministry of Rural Development. The State Governments/UT Administrations have been requested from time to time for effective implementation of land reform programmes/schemes including distribution of ceiling surplus land.

Based on the information received from the States/UTs, the details of the ceiling surplus land distributed State-wise during the last three years are indicated in Annexure-I.

The subject matter has, however, been considered at the highest level. In order to get comprehensive recommendations on the matter, the following two high level bodies have been constituted:

- i) A 'Committee on State Agrarian Relations and the Unfinished Task in Land Reforms' under the chairmanship of Minister of Rural Development.
- ii) A 'National Council for Land Reforms' under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister.

The composition, terms of reference, etc. of the Committee and the Council were notified in the Official Gazette on 9th January, 2008. The Committee has since submitted its report. The Report of the Committee is to be placed before the 'National Council for Land Reforms' constituted under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister for its consideration and directions. The Council may lay down broad guidelines and policy recommendations on land reforms, based on the recommendations of the Committee.