

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1299
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2015
SELF-HELP-GROUPS OF FARMERS
Kumar Shri Santosh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Commission for Farmers has suggested farmers to unite and get organised into self-help-groups;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of self-help groups of farmers constituted so far, in the country, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government provide funds to such groups; and
- (d) if so, the amount allocated and utilized during 2015?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

(a) to (d): National Commission on Farmers (NCF) has not specifically suggested the constitution of self-help groups of farmers by the Government. However, the Commission has suggested promoting, encouraging and assisting self help groups, cooperatives, farmer producer companies etc. to enable farmers to avail benefits of on-going schemes/ policies and improve their collective welfare. These suggestions have been incorporated suitably in the (NPF), 2007.

For the purpose of skill development, providing self-employment opportunities, technology transfer etc. Government is providing training to various individuals and organizations including self help groups under its various schemes like Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), ATMA (Agricultural Technology Management Agency) scheme, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) etc. Training is also being provided by various institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) etc.