

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:746
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2014
ECONOMIC CONDITION OF FARMERS
Singh Shri Ganesh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the financial condition of a large number of farmers has deteriorated in the country over the years and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any survey to assess the income and economic conditions of the farmers in the country;
- (c) if so, the details and the findings thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to extend subsidy on agriculture inputs such as irrigation and diesel to address the problems of the farmers and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether there is any proposal to provide pension as social security to all the farmers in the country and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a): According to Agriculture Census 2010-11 and India Rural Development Report 2012-13, small and marginal farmers, who own about 85% of the total operational holdings, have often too small holdings to generate sufficient income to support a family. They suffer serious disadvantages in marketing and distribution due to smaller outputs, fragmented holdings and distance from markets.

(b) & (c): The National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) conducted Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers during 2003 in the rural areas to collect information, inter alia, on receipts and expenses relating to cultivation, farming of animals, non-farm business and wages. The survey provides a comprehensive socio-economic study of the Indian farmers covering educational level, level of living, farming practices, possession of productive assets, awareness and resource availability, indebtedness etc.

The average monthly income per farmer household at all India level during the year 2002-03 was Rs.2115. The average monthly per farmer household income by source in each of the major States during 2002-03 is at Annexure.

(d): Diesel subsidy scheme is not yet announced for 2014-15.

(e): No, Madam.