

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1225  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2018**

**EFFORTS IN AREA OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

**1225. SHRI G.C.CHANDRASHEKHAR:**

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the NITI Aayog has initiated a national programme to direct efforts in the area of artificial intelligence, including research and development of its applications and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the NITI Aayog is working to evolve a suitable mechanism to enable access of lessee cultivators to credit without compromising the rights of the land owners and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government in this regard, so far?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING  
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS**

**(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)**

- (a) Yes, Sir. In the Union Budget for 2018-19, NITI Aayog was mandated to develop the National Program for Artificial Intelligence. A discussion paper was accordingly released in June 2018 on the National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence. The National Strategy inter alia identifies skilling and re-skilling requirements for the existing workforce, and approach for setting up of Centres of Research Excellence in AI (CORE) and International Centers of Transformational AI (ICTAI).
- (b)&(c) NITI Aayog in consultation with the State Governments had drafted a Model Land Leasing Act-2016, which was circulated to the State Government and Central Ministries including Department of Land Resources. The Model Act also has provisions for providing loans to the lessee farmers. To further pursue the matters, letters have been sent to states from various levels in NITI Aayog [Vice Chairman, CEO and Adviser (Agriculture)], NITI Aayog. A National Consultation workshop on Status of Land Leasing Reforms has also been organized. In pursuance of the initiatives taken by NITI Aayog, some states have already started to review /reformulate their land leasing acts.

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