

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION & FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 182
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 31ST JULY, 2018

TENANT FARMERS

*182. SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI):

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण
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be pleased to state:

- (a): whether tenant farmers in some States are hypothecating the harvest to pesticide dealers and private moneylenders to get pesticides and money;
- (b): if so, details thereof;
- (c): whether tenant farmers have to continue farming as they do not have the knowledge/skill of any other work and if so, the details thereof;
- (d): whether the farmers lease the land between Rs.1,000 and Rs.5,000 per acre; and
- (e): if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to regulate lease price of farmland and provide bank loans to tenant farmers to contain suicides?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण ½â"ãè

(SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 182 DUE FOR REPLY ON 31ST JULY, 2018.**

(a) to (e): The subject relating to Land and its management falls within the jurisdiction of States as per Entry 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 nature. The Central Government is not maintaining any data relating to tenant farmers hypothecating the harvest to pesticide dealers and private money lenders to get pesticides and money as well as data relating to leasing of the land.

2. To address the issues in the area of land leasing, NITI Aayog has developed The Model Land Lease Act, 2016 for adoption by States. The Model Act offers an appropriate template for the states and UTs to draft their own piece of legislations, in consonance with the local requirements and adopt an enabling Act. Key elements of the Model Land Leasing Act are:-

- i) Legalize land leasing to promote agricultural efficiency, equity and poverty reduction.
- ii) Facilitate all tenants including share croppers to access insurance bank credit and bank credit against pledging of expected output.
- iii) Legalize land leasing in all areas to ensure complete security of land ownership right for land owners and security of tenure for tenants for the agreed lease period.
- iv) Remove the clause of adverse possession of land in the land laws of various states as it interferes with free functioning of land lease market;
- v) Allow automatic resumption of land after the agreed lease.

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vi) Allow the terms and conditions of lease to be determined mutually by the land owner and the tenant without any fear on the part of the landowner of losing land right or undue expectation on the part of the tenant of acquiring occupancy right for continuous possession of leased land for any fixed period.

vii) Incentivize tenants to make investment in land improvement and also entitle them to get back the unused value of investment at the time of termination of tenancy.

Further, the Central Government has released the Model Agricultural Produce & Livestock Marketing (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2017, in April, 2017 and the Model Agricultural Produce & Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2018, in May, 2018, for adoption by State/UTs, to promote alternative competitive marketing channels for better pricing for farmers and to encourage private investment in developing efficient marketing infrastructure and value chain.

3. Although, Agriculture is a State subject, through various schemes of Government of India efforts are being made to empower the farmers by skilling them thereby enabling them for diversified income generating options. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms (ATMA) is under implementation in 676 districts of 29 states & 3 UTs. Under the scheme, support to State Government is provided to revitalize the extension system and making available the latest technologies to farmers in various thematic areas to increase agricultural production. Activities include farmers trainings, demonstrations, exposure visits, kisan mela, mobilization of farmers and organizing farm schools.

4. Through various skill development programme as vetted by Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) farmers are being imparted skill development training as Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) norms.

5. Apart from this, Krishi Kalyan Abhiyan has been launched from 1st June, 2018 focusing on giving a boost to agriculture and allied activities in aspirational districts with an ultimate aim to double the income of farmers. The Abhiyan has specifically taken care of imparting skill development training to farmers in the field of bee keeping, mushroom production, kitchen garden and other income generating fields. Scientists from Krishi Vigyan Kendras, academicians from State Agriculture Universities and entrepreneurs have shared their experience with farmers during the trainings conducted. As on 26.07.2018, 15,945 training sessions have been conducted in which 5,64,536 farmers have participated. Other activities being implemented under this initiative are:-

- (i) Distribution of soil health cards,
- (ii) Distribution of free mini-kits of pulses and oilseeds
- (iii) Distribution of horticulture plants
- (iv) Artificial insemination programme
- (v) Bovine vaccination programme
- (vi) Eradication of *Peste des Petits ruminants* (PPR) diseases in sheep and goat
- (vii) Making of Nadep compost pit and distribution of waste decomposer
- (viii) Distribution of agriculture implements.
