

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2173
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2023

LIVELIHOOD OF FARMERS

2173. SHRI VELUSAMY P:

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

- (a) whether it is true that agriculture with its allied sectors, is the largest source of livelihoods as 70 per cent of its rural households still depend primarily on agriculture for their livelihood with 82 per cent of farmers being small and marginal;
- (b) whether the Government will take steps for separate budget for Agriculture taking into consideration the plight of the farmers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether during in the years 2017-18, total foodgrain production was estimated at 275 Million Tonnes (MT) and India was the largest producer (25% of global production), consumer (27% of world consumption) and importer (14%) of pulses in the world and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a): The survey on Situation Assessment of Agricultural Households and Land and Livestock Holdings of Households in Rural India, 2019 conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) provides data on rural households classified by their major sources of income. As per this survey, about 58.3% of the rural households reported agricultural activities as their main source of Income. As per Agriculture Census 2015-16, small and marginal operational holders constituted about 86 per cent of the total operational holders in the country.
- (b) & (c): There is no proposal to introduce a separate budget for Agriculture. However, Government of India provides top most priority to the sector which is the backbone of the economy. This is reflected in the fact that budget allocation for the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare is very substantial. It has increased from Rs.27662.67 crore in 2013-14 to Rs. 132513.62 crore in 2022-23.
- (d): In 2017-18, foodgrain production in India was estimated at 285.01 Million Tonnes (MT).As per information obtained from FAOSTAT(database of FAO), India's production, consumption(domestic supply) and import of pulses in 2018 vis-à-vis the world was 28%, 30% and 14% respectively.