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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1977
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1ST AUGUST, 2023

INCLUSION OF BENEFICIARIES

1977. SHRI K. NAVASKANI:

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

(a)   whether the Government is cognizant that the inclusion of ineligible persons on the beneficiary list of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Scheme raises concerns and defeats the very purpose of the scheme for which it was launched; and

(b) if so, the details of the corrective steps that are proposed to be taken by the Government to exclude better-off farmers from the beneficiary list?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is a central sector scheme launched on 24th February 2019 to supplement the financial needs of land-holding farmers. Under this scheme, the financial benefit of Rs 6,000/- per year in three equal instalments every four months is transferred into the bank accounts of farmers' families across the country through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.

Benefits under the scheme are transferred to all the landholding farmer families except those falling under exclusion criteria as per the guidelines of the scheme. The responsibility of verifying the eligibility of farmers lies with the respective State/UT Govt. A farmer-centric digital infrastructure has ensured the benefits of the scheme reach all the eligible farmers across the country without any involvement of the middlemen, maintaining absolute transparency from registration to delivery of the benefit. So far, Government of India has disbursed over Rs 2.60 Lakhs Crores to more than 11 Cr farmers families.

PM-KISAN utilizes technology to improve its implementation and administration of scheme. Since the launch of the PM-KISAN scheme, it has been centered on using technology to ensure that all eligible farmers get the benefit of the scheme. To this end, the scheme has continually evolved by integrating various systems including use of Digital Public Goods such as authentication through Aadhaar, Aadhaar based payment system, Income tax and PFMS verification, Pensioner data in PMFS, land records as per the Record of Rights. These efforts helped the Government to weed out the farmers belonging to the exclusion criteria of the scheme such as farmers with high-income, pensioners, registered professionals, Government employees, etc.

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