

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1401
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2020

SPECIAL FOCUS ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT

1401. SHRIMATI RANJANBEN DHANANJAY BHATT:

Will the Minister of **RURAL DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to give focused attention/pay special attention in the rural development to solve the problem of the farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): The Government has taken a number of initiatives for development of rural areas including addressing the problem of farmers. For development of rural areas through employment generation, strengthening of livelihood opportunities, promoting self-employment, skilling of rural youths, provision of social assistance, infrastructure development etc., the Ministry of Rural Development, inter alia, is implementing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Deen Dayal Upadhyay – Gramin Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Shyama Prasad Mukherjee National RuRBAN Mission and National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP).

The Ministry of Rural Development is also facilitating linkages between Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and the agriculture sector to help the farmers promote their agricultural activities. MGNREGS emphasises that at least 60% of works at district level in terms of cost shall be for creation of productive assets directly linked to Agriculture and Allied Activities which include works related to water security like construction of farm ponds, wells, earthen check dam, field channels and other water harvesting structures. There are 261 works which are permissible under MGNREGS, of which 164 works relate to agriculture and allied activities.

The Government has also taken steps towards strengthening farm livelihoods of women farmers and launched Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) in 2011, a sub component of Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM). The main focus of this programme is to capacitate the women farmers to adopt / improve multiple livelihoods for income enhancement. Focused area of farm livelihood intervention in DAY-NRLM as well as MKSP is promotion of agro-ecological practices, Non Timber Forest Produce, promotion of organic cluster and marketing of farm produces through value chain intervention.

In order to address concerns of land degradation and wastelands and enhance productivity in rainfed areas, the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development is implementing area development programme on watershed basis namely Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY). The activities undertaken through the watershed development projects inter alia, include ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rain water harvesting, nursery raising, afforestation, horticulture, pasture development, livelihoods for assetless persons etc.

For the benefit of farmers, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has also launched various interventions and schemes to increase production, generate remunerative returns and provide income support. The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) was launched with a view to provide income support to farmers, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan-Dhan Yojana (PM-KMY) for providing old age pension, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) to provide better insurance coverage to crops for risk mitigation, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) for promoting organic farming, Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers etc.
