

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1453
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11TH FEBRUARY, 2020

LANDLESS FARMERS

1453. SHRI DEVUSINH JESINGHBHAI CHAUHAN:

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

- (a) whether it is true that a huge number of farmers are still landless in the country, if so, the details of the estimated landless farmers in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether it is true that the National Commission on Farmers recommended for provision of one acre of land to every landless farmer, if so, the reasons why crores of farmers of the country are still landless;
- (c) whether the Government will conduct any survey or study on the number and conditions of landless farmers in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government has taken measures to identify and distribute or allocate land to landless farmers in all these years to improve their living condition, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): No specific census/survey of landless farmers has been conducted and as such the exact number of landless farmers in the country is not available. However, State-wise number of wholly leased-in operational holdings as per Agriculture Census 2015-16 is given in the Annexure.

(b): The National Commission on Farmers, under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, had, inter-alia, recommended that "wherever feasible, landless labour households should be provided with at least 1 acre per household, which will give them space for home gardens and animal rearing". The major recommendations of the Commission were included in the 'Draft National Policy for Farmers' submitted by the Commission itself in 2006. Based on the 'Draft National Policy for Farmers', the Government approved the National Policy for Farmers (NPF)-2007.

The policy provisions in NPF-2007 include, inter-alia, asset reforms to strengthen implementation of laws relating to land reform, with particular reference to tenancy laws, land leasing, distribution of ceiling surplus land and wastelands, providing adequate access to common property and wasteland resources, etc. Since, 'Land' and its management falls within the legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the States and the role of Central Government is advisory in nature, State Governments have been advised for distribution of land to the eligible poor by action plans and by undertaking special drives.

(c): Government is not contemplating any proposal to conduct a specific survey or study on the number and conditions of landless farmers.

(d): The subject relating to Land and its management falls within the jurisdiction of States. Thus the role of Central Government in the field of land reforms is only of advisory nature. With a view to address the issues in the area of land leasing, NITI Aayog has developed a 'Model Agricultural Land Leasing Act, 2016' for adoption by States and circulated to all the 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 to legalize land leasing to promote agricultural efficiency, equity and poverty reduction; facilitate all tenants, including share croppers to access insurance bank credit and bank credit against pledging of expected output; and 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.

**Statement referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1453
due for reply on 11.02.2020**

S. No.	States/UTs	Wholly Leased-in Holdings
1	A&N Islands	12
2	Andhra Pradesh	30445
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4	Assam	3012
5	Bihar	4090
6	Chandigarh	0
7	Chhattisgarh	377
8	D&N Haveli	2
9	Daman & Diu	0
10	Delhi	0
11	Goa	4121
12	Gujarat	0
13	Haryana	0
14	Himachal Pradesh	200
15	Jammu & Kashmir	960
16	Jharkhand	2392
17	Karnataka	98
18	Kerala	21853
19	Lakshadweep	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	8340
21	Maharashtra	776
22	Manipur	6627
23	Meghalaya	0
24	Mizoram	0
25	Nagaland	317
26	Odisha	283071
27	Puducherry	223
28	Punjab	6576
29	Rajasthan	5486
30	Sikkim	1037
31	Tamil Nadu	9899
32	Telangana	763
33	Tripura	1575
34	Uttar Pradesh	21220
35	Uttarakhand	148
36	West Bengal	117665
	All India	531285

Source: Agriculture Census 2015-16
