

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2727**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2021

**CATEGORIZATION OF FARMERS**

2727. SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has categorised the farmers as small, marginal and those living in Below Poverty Line as BPL ones and Other Backward Class (OBC) farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the average size of the agriculture landholding is small and marginal in the country and this is also not beneficial for the farmers and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to increase its productivity;
- (d) the details of the steps taken/being taken to provide assistance to small and marginal farmers; and
- (e) the measures being taken by the Government to make small landholdings more economically viable?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): In Agriculture Census, the operational holdings are categorized in three social groups viz., Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Others and in five size classes as given below:

S. No.	Category	Size-Class
1.	Marginal	Below 1.00 hectare
2.	Small	1.00 - 2.00 hectare
3.	Semi-Medium	2.00 - 4.00 hectare
4.	Medium	4.00 - 10.00 hectare
5.	Large	10.00 hectare and above

(c): As per Agriculture Census 2015-16, average size of the land holdings in the country was 1.08 hectares. To improve productivity of small and marginal holdings, the Government is promoting adoption of modern technologies and practices like multiple cropping, intercropping and integrated farming systems. Integrated Farming Systems (IFS) models developed for the States have been included in the package of practices of respective state Governments. These are popularized among farmers, including small and marginal farmers, through farmer participatory refinement and demonstration of integrated farming systems. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is also conducting research programme to develop location specific varieties and technologies for enhancing the production and productivity of farm holdings.

(d) & (e): To enhance the remuneration of small and marginal farmers and to make their holdings more economically viable, Government is implementing a number of Schemes like Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme, National Agriculture Market Scheme (e-NAM), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan-Dhan Yojana scheme, National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Kisan Credit Card (KCC), Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture(MIDH), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Rainfed Area Development (RAD) Programme under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Scheme for promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Implementation of National Bee Keeping Honey Mission (NBHM), Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) etc.

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