SMALL FARMERS

3846. SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 80 percent of the farmers in the country are having less than two hectares of agricultural land;
(b) if so, details thereof;
(c) whether the Government have any plans to improve the income of these small farmers; and
(d) the details of facilities provided by the Government to small farmers in the country for raising the collective power of small farmers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): As per Agriculture Census 2015-16, there are 146.45 million operational holders in the country, of which 86.07% operational holders (126.06 million) are operating land less than two hectares.

(c) & (d): Government is implementing a number of schemes to improve the income of small farmers and to raise their collective power. These include adoption of modern technologies and practices like multiple cropping, intercropping and integrated farming systems. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is conducting research programmes to develop location specific varieties and technologies for enhancing production and productivity of farm holdings. Support is also provided to farmers (including small farmers) through initiatives and programmes of Government like Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Soil Health Card (SHC), National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Pradhan Matri Kisan Maan-Dhan Yojana (PMKMY), 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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