

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2051
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11TH MARCH 2025

NATIONAL POLICY FOR RECOGNISING LANDLESS FARMERS

2051. SHRI G KUMAR NAIK:

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

- (a) whether the National Policy for Farmers recognizes individuals without land ownership as farmers;
- (b) whether the PM KISAN benefits are restricted to land-owning farmers, and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the scheme's benefits will be extended to non-land owning farmers who meet other criteria, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि और किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): As per National Policy for Farmers, the term "FARMER" refers to a person actively engaged in the economic and/or livelihood activity of growing crops and producing other primary agricultural commodities and includes all agricultural operational holders, cultivators, agricultural labourers, sharecroppers, tenants, poultry and livestock rearers, fishers, beekeepers, gardeners, pastoralists, non-corporate planters and planting labourers, as well as persons engaged in various farming-related occupations such as sericulture, vermiculture and agro-forestry. The term also includes tribal families/persons engaged in shifting cultivation and in the collection, use and sale of minor and non-timber forest produce.

(b) to (c): The PM-KISAN scheme is a central sector scheme launched in February 2019 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister to supplement the financial needs of land-holding farmers. Under the scheme, a financial benefit of Rs. 6,000/- per year is transferred in three equal instalments, into the Aadhar seeded bank accounts of farmers through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.

A farmer-centric digital infrastructure has ensured the benefits of the scheme reach all the farmers across the country without involvement of any intermediaries. Maintaining absolute transparency in registering and verifying beneficiaries, the Government of India has disbursed over Rs 3.68 lakh Cr. through 19 instalments since inception.

At present, there is no proposal to include landless farmers in the PM-KISAN Scheme.
