

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:364
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2005
LABOUR CO- OPERATIVES
Satheedevi Smt. P.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has adopted any measures for strengthening the labour co- operatives;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has given any direction to the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to provide adequate working capital with minimum interest rate to them;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the facilities being provided to the labour co-operatives by the NABARD;
- (e) whether the Government has implemented the recommendations of the National Advisory Council of Labour Co-operatives; and
- (f) if so, the details of the recommendations alongwith their implementation status?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 364 DUE FOR REPLY ON 19TH DECEMBER, 2005.

(a): Yes, Sir. The Government is providing assistance to National Labour Cooperative Federation of India Ltd. (NLCF), an apex organization of labour cooperatives in the country. Assistance is provided to NLCF for the promotion, development and upgrading the skills of labour cooperatives. The labour cooperatives have also been made eligible to avail assistance from National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) to carry out their business activities,.

(b): No, Sir.

(c)&(d): National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has a line of credit to sanction short-term credit to labour cooperatives through State Cooperative Banks, which are engaged in manufacturing and processing of goods.

(e)&(f): Yes, Sir. The National Advisory Council on Labour Cooperatives made the recommendations which include interalia:

- (i) Amendment in National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) Act to include Labour Cooperatives.
- (ii) Continuation of the Central Sector Scheme for Assisting the Skill Development Programmes of National Labour Cooperative Federation.
- (iii) Exemption to Labour and Forest Cooperatives from Tax Deducted at source, under Income Tax.
- (iv) Exemption from Levy of Sales Tax.
- (v) Award of labour/construction contracts by concerned agencies of the Central and State Governments.

Regarding recommendation at S. No.

(i) notification has been issued on 21st June, 2005, including labour as one of the notified services eligible for assistance from NCDC. The recommendation at S. No.

(ii) has been implemented and assistance for skill development programme is continued during the Xth Plan period. Regarding recommendation at S. No.(iii) to

(v), the concerned authorities have been addressed in the matter.