

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1714  
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2010  
REPORT ON LAND REFORMS  
Natrajan Meenakshi

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) the terms of reference of the Committee constituted and notified in January, 2000 under the Chairmanship of the Minister concerned regarding land reforms; and

(b) the details of findings as submitted by the said Committee along with the action taken by the Government thereon with reference to the terms of reference notified?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI)

(a): Regarding land reforms, no Committee was constituted and notified in January, 2000. However, during January, 2008, a ? Committee on State Agrarian Relations and the Unfinished Task in Land Reforms? was constituted under the Chairmanship of Minister of Rural Development and notified on 09-01-2008 with the following terms of reference:

i) To conduct in-depth review of the land ceiling programme in the country including status of distribution of land declared surplus, continued possession by the rural poor of the allotted land and expeditious disposal of land declared surplus but held up due to litigation and to suggest appropriate and effective strategies in this regard.

ii) To ensure access of the poor to common property resources, suggest ways for identification, management, development and distribution of Government/wasteland to the landless.

iii) To review the progress of distribution of Bhoodan land in the States and suggest measures for distribution of the remaining Bhoodan land to the landless.

iv) To examine the issue of tenancy and sub-tenancies and suggest measures for recording of all agricultural tenants and a framework to enable cultivators of land to lease in and lease out with suitable assurances for fair rent, security of tenure and right to resumption.

v) To examine the issues relating to alienation of tribal lands including traditional rights of the forest-dependant tribals and to suggest realistic measures including changes required in the relevant laws for restoration of such lands to them.

vi) To examine the issue of setting up of fast track courts/mechanism for speedy disposal of land-related litigation cases.

vii) To look into the land use aspects, particularly the agricultural land, and recommend measures to prevent/minimize conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes, consistent with development needs of the country.

viii) To examine the issues related to homestead rights and recommend measures for providing land for housing to the families without homestead land.

ix) To suggest measures for modernization of land management with special reference to updating of land records, proper recording of land rights and speedy resolution of conflicts and disputes relating to land.

x) Suggest institutional mechanisms for effective implementation of land reform programmes.

xi) To examine measures to provide women greater access to land and other productive assets.

xii) Any other issue of relevance.

xiii) Any other Term of Reference that may be decided by the Committee in its first meeting.

(b): The Committee has submitted its report and has, inter alia, made recommendations on various aspects of land reforms. The report of the Committee is available on this Departments website (dolr.nic.in). The report is to be placed before the ?National Council for Land Reforms? constituted under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister for its consideration and directions. As recommendations made by the Committee relate to the State Governments/UT Administrations and other Central Ministries/Departments, the report of the Committee has been sent to the States/UTs and the concerned Central Ministries/Departments for obtaining their

views/comments/suggestions. In the mean time, it has been decided that the recommendations of the Committee may be examined by an appropriate Committee of Secretaries (CoS) before they are placed for consideration of the National Council for Land Reforms?. Accordingly, further action for the purpose has been initiated.