

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2932

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2009

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram; Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan; Mitra Shri Somendra Nath; Panda Shri Prabodh; Ponnam Shri Prabhakar; Saroj Smt. Sushila

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the National Agricultural Commission has recommended for providing lands to landless peasants of the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features of its recommendations;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to implement the recommendation of the said commission;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the time by which the programme is likely to be implemented; and
- (f) the likely number of beneficiaries after the implementation of the programme?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (f): The National Commission on Agriculture, 1976, in paras 67.5.26 to 67.5.30 of its report had recommended that in the distribution of surplus land, priority should be given to landless agricultural population, particularly to the Harijans, Tribals and those belonging to backward communities, who in any capacity are already tilling the land.

Besides this, the National Commission on Farmers (NCF) set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan submitted a 'Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers' along with its fifth and final report on 4.10.2006. In this document it was mentioned that the ownership of a small plot of land will help the landless family improve household income and nutrition security and wherever feasible, landless labour households should be provided with at least 1 acre per household, which will give them space for home gardens and animal rearing.

Based on the above mentioned 'Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers' submitted by the NCF and after consulting the States, the Government of India approved the National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007. Para 4.2.1 of the NPF 2007 envisages the necessity of strengthening implementation of laws relating to land reforms, with particular reference to tenancy laws, land leasing, distribution of ceiling surplus land and wasteland, providing adequate access to common property and wasteland resources and the consolidation of holdings. The NPF has been circulated to all State Governments for further suitable action. The subjects of Agriculture and Land are under the State List under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India and the States are expected to take further action in this regard.

Subsequently, an Inter-Minister Committee constituted by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation finalized a Plan of Action for operationalisation of the NPF, 2007 and the same was circulated in October 2008 to all the State Governments and the central Ministries/Departments concerned for necessary action.

A regular monitoring mechanism has also been put in place to oversee the progress of implementation of NPF 2007.