

Recommendation of National Commission on Farmers

3044. SHRI N.K. SINGH:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the National Commission on Farmers in its report has suggested comprehensive strategy for food and nutrition security in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of recommendations and action taken thereon;
- (c) whether Government has since examined those recommendations; and
- (d) if so, the time by when those recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
(a) to (d) The National Commission on Farmers (NCF), set up under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, in its Second Report submitted in August, 2005 has suggested a medium-term strategy for food and nutrition security in the country. The NCF submitted its Final Report along with a draft National Policy for Farmers in October, 2006. This Draft National Policy for Farmers proposes formulation and enactment of a Food Guarantee Act; the necessity of a well defined Food Security Policy; and setting up a National Food Security and Sovereignty Board. Based on this Draft and consultations with the State Governments, the Government of India approved the National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007 which *inter-alia* provides for a well defined Food Security Policy and constitution of a Cabinet Committee on Food Security. As per the Union Budget (2009-10), work on National Food Security Act has begun in right earnest.

The NPF document was laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament in November, 2007. Subsequently, an Inter-Ministerial Committee constituted by the Department of Agriculture and 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.

Strategies for Agricultural Mechanisation and Technology

3045. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the strategies and programmes for the Agricultural Mechanization and Technology;
- (b) whether it is a fact that training and testing facilities are highly uneven in different parts of the country; and
- (c) if so, the corrective steps being taken in this regard?