Department has not conducted scientific study as per the operational requirements of Hail Control System to judge the efficacy and efficiency of the Hail Control System.

Loan to farmers

†3878. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than half of farmer families in the country don't have the facility of agricultural loan under institutional financial system;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto:

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a huge number of small and marginal farmers in the country who are still deprived of agricultural loan facility under institutional financial system; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (d) As per National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) report No. 498 on the "Indebtedness of Farmer Households" (as part of Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers- 59th Round) released in the year 2005, of the 89.35 million farmer households, 43.42 million (48.6%) were reported to be indebted to either formal or informal or both sources of credit. As per the survey report, the most important source of loan in terms of percentage of outstanding loan amount was banks (36%) followed by agricultural/professional money lenders (26%) and cooperative societies (20%).

The Government has taken several measures to increase institutional credit flow and bringing more and more farmers including small and marginal farmers within the institutional credit fold. These measures, *inter alia,* includes fixation of annual targets for improving agricultural credit flow, provision of crop loans upto Rs. 3.00 lakh @ 4% per annum to such farmers who repay their loan as per the repayment schedule fixed by the banks, extension of benefit of interest subvention scheme to small and marginal farmers having Kisan Credit Card for a further period upto six months for storing their produce in warehouses against negotiable warehouse receipts, collateral free loan upto Rs.1.00 lakh, scheme for financing of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Joint Liability Group (JLGs) etc. As a result of these measures, agricultural credit flow has increased from Rs. 229400 crore in the year 2006-07 to Rs. 468291 crore in the year 2010-11 and corresponding coverage of farmers' account is 423 lakh and 550 lakh, out of which 215 lakh and 335 lakh pertains to small and marginal farmers. The target of credit flow of the year 2011-12 has been fixed at Rs. 475000 crore and as per provisional figures reported by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, the achievement as on 31.3.2012 is Rs. 476550 crore. The target of credit flow for the year 2012-13 has been fixed at Rs. 575000 crore.

Cultivation of pulses in foreign countries

3879. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is facing big deficit of pulses and vegetable oil, making it vulnerable to price shocks in the global market, at least in case of pulses;

(b) if so, whether Government has proposed to purchase land in foreign countries for cultivating pulses;

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether Government will also encourage private role in this activity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the follow up action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir. The domestic supply/production of pulses and edible oilseeds is less than the domestic consumption of these commodities. Consequently, the country has been importing these commodities to meet the requirement.

The domestic production of pulses and oilseeds and their projected domestic demand during the last year was as under:

(Demand and Production in Million Tonnes)

Year	Pulses		Oilseeds	
	Projected Demand	Production	Projected Demand	Production
2011-12	19.91	17.02*	53.39	30.06*

* 3rd Advance Estimates for 2011-12