Definition and duties of a farmer

686. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to recognise the duties of the farmers and to declare them as farmers;

(b) the steps being taken to amend the laws in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken to set up Committee to spell out the definition of farmers in the country in future?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) As per National Policy for farmers 2007, the definition of a farmer is " A person actively engaged in the economic and/or livelihood activity of growing crops and producing other primary agricultural commodities and will include all agricultural operational holders, cultivators, agricultural labourers, sharecroppers, tenants, poultry and livestock rearers, fishers, bee keepers, gardeners, pastoralists, non-corporate planters and planting labourers, as well as persons engaged in various farming related occupations such as sericulture, vermiculture, and agro-forestry. The term also includes tribal families/persons engaged in shifting cultivation and in the collection, use and sale of minor and non-timber forest produce".

The benefits of a scheme being extended to a farmer depends on the scope of scheme and eligibility criteria fixed for the scheme eg. Kisan Credit Card (KCC), benefit is extended to land holding farmers, cultivators, agricultural laboures, share croppers, tenant farmers etc., while in PM-Kisan the benefit is extended to farmers with operational holdings.

Agriculture being a State subject, the State Governments undertake implementation of programmes/schemes for the development of the sector. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various schemes/programmes. Land records arc under the purview of the State Governments/UTs.

Infrastructural facilities in agriculture sector

687. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:
DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state: