

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-524
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05/02/2021

SITUATION OF FARMERS IN AGRICULTURE LAND AGREEMENT

524. Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad:
Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav:
Smt. Chhaya Verma:
Shri Chh.
Udayanraje Bhonsle:

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

- (a) the options farmers are left with for growing crops in the event of getting back an infertile land after entering into a direct contract with the private companies under the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020;
- (b) the details thereof;
- (c) whether the situation of farmers would become precarious if the doors of the courts are shut in Agriculture Land Agreement; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): The land always remains with the farmer. Under the provisions of the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020, the Farming Agreement entered between a farmer/Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) and the sponsor (the person purchasing the farming produce) is with respect to the crop and not with respect to the land. The Farming Agreement may also include more detailed information on how the production will be carried out or the quality of inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and technical advice to be provided by the Sponsor to the farmer. The Farming Agreement is entered only on mutually agreeable terms and the farmer will enter into the Agreement only after he is satisfied with the terms and conditions stipulated in the Agreement. Hence, no question of getting back an infertile land arise.

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(c) & (d) No Sir. There is no Agriculture Land Agreement. The Farming Agreement enshrined under the Act is with respect to the crop and not with respect to the land. Further, the Act provides for a detailed and channelized dispute resolution mechanism. Under the Act, if a dispute arises during the period of agreement, the aggrieved party shall invoke the formation of conciliation board as per the terms of the agreement who shall mediate and attempt resolution within 30 days of such reference. If the dispute fails to get resolved within 30 days, either party may file a complaint with the Sub-Divisional Authority. If the decision of the Sub-Divisional Authority is not acceptable by either of the parties, they may file an appeal to the Appellate Authority.
