

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 663
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22/07/2022

WELFARE SCHEMES FOR ST/SC TENANT FARMERS

663 SHRI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE PILLI:

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

- (a) the number of tenant farmers in the country;
- (b) whether Government is aware that several ST/SC farmers are tenant farmers who cannot access welfare schemes because land is not in their name;
- (c) if so, whether any schemes are proposed for the benefit of such category;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether any efforts have been made to extend agricultural credit, specifically to this category; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): As per the latest survey on Situation Assessment of Agricultural Households and Land and Livestock Holdings of Households in Rural India conducted in 2019 by National Statistical Office (NSO), tenant holdings constituted (with both wholly and partly leased-in area) about 17.3% of the total holdings in the country during 2018-19.

(b) to (f): Agriculture being a State subject, the State Governments undertake implementation of agricultural schemes/programmes for the welfare of farmers including SC/ST tenant farmers and the Government of India also supplements these efforts through implementation of various central sector/centrally sponsored schemes/programmes. Among these the schemes which specifically cover tenant farmers, including SC/ST tenant farmers are the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) & Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) and Kisan Credit Card(KCC) scheme.

Beneficiaries of such schemes are decided/selected by respective State Governments. The details of these schemes are given in Annex.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) to (f) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 663 due for answer on 22/07/2022

1. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) & Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS)

The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) & Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) envisages indemnification of crop losses due to adverse climatic/weather conditions against the predefined guaranteed yield and weather triggers. The scheme provides extensive coverage of notified crops from pre-sowing to post harvest stage. Under the Scheme, all farmers including tenant farmers growing the notified crops in the notified areas are eligible for coverage provided they have insurable interest. PMFBY is voluntary for both States/UTs and farmers.

For availing the scheme, farmers are required to submit necessary documentary evidence of land records prevailing in the State (Records of Right (RoR), Land Possession Certificate (LPC) etc.) and/or applicable contract/ agreement details/ other documents notified/ permitted by concerned State Government in case of tenant farmers and the same should be defined by the respective States in the notification itself.

2. Kisan Credit Card(KCC) Scheme

Through the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme, the Government is providing short term agri credit upto Rs. 3 lakh at subsidized rate of interest (4% per annum on timely repayment of loan) to all farmers including tenant farmers and sharecroppers. Such farmers are also entitled for coverage under crop insurance Schemes with benefit of subsidy in premium. States have to prescribe the modalities for enabling such farmers to avail credit and crop insurance. Further, farmers can avail of loan upto Rs. 1.60 lakh without any collateral. Landless and tenant farmers/artisans can also avail collateral-free institutional credit by forming Self Help Groups (SHGs) or Joint Liability Groups (JLGs), which is a medium for financing landless farmers, tenant farmers, sharecroppers and oral lessees.
