

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-650
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08/12/2023

CARBON TRADING IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR

650. SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA:

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to ensure equitable distribution of benefits from carbon trading in the agricultural sector, particularly among small holder farmers;
- (b) measures that are in place to monitor and verify the actual carbon sequestration or emission reduction outcomes achieved by agricultural practices in carbon trading; and
- (c) the role of technology and data collection in assessing and validating the carbon footprint of different agricultural activities eligible for carbon credits?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Carbon trading is a market based mechanism and by adoption of sustainable agricultural practices, small holder farmers can realise the benefits. The extent of benefits depends on the level of adoption of sustainable practices and quantity of carbon sequestration achieved. Many interventions lunched under National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) such as agroforestry, micro irrigation, crop diversification, Natural / organic farming, soil health management, Integrated Farming Systems, etc. by the government of India are to encourage farmers to be part of the carbon trading in agriculture. Voluntary carbon markets allow carbon emitters to offset their emissions by purchasing carbon credits generated. A carbon market methodology defines a standard set of parameters, criteria, and operations required for the calculation of emission reductions or removals from a carbon project during its lifetime. Carbon project developers may either use pre-existing methodologies or develop new ones. Validation and verification are critical to ensure the integrity and quality of the projects. The Ministry of Power's notification S.O. 2825 (E) has published the Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS) for trading of carbon credits among obligated entities.
