

No: SFAC/43/Parl.Qus/2023-24
 Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium
 5th Floor, NCUI Auditorium Building,
 August Kranti Marg, Hauz Khas, New Delhi - 110016

Dated 31.01.2024

To,
 ASO (M-II),
 Department of Agriculture & Farmer Welfare.
 Krishi Bhawan,
 New Delhi

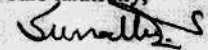
Sub: Rajya Sabha Starred / Unstarred Dairy No. S306 due for answer on 02.02.2024 on Development of Agriculture Sector in The country-reg.

Sir,

Please refer to the Rajya Sabha question cited above. In this regard reply is furnished as below:

S.No.	Question	Reply as far as SFAC is concerned
(a)	Whether Government has taken any steps to increase the average monthly income per agriculture household in the last five years, and if so, the details thereof;	Realizing the significance of Small, marginal and landless farmers and for providing better services to these farmers, Government has launched the Central Sector Scheme for "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)" on 29.02.2020 with a clear strategy to form and promote 10,000 new FPOs in the country to facilitate and support small and marginal farmers with Budget of Rs. 6865 crores. The objective of the scheme is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a holistic and broad-based supportive ecosystem to form and promote 10,000 new FPOs. • To enhance productivity through efficient, cost-effective, and sustainable resource use and realize higher returns through better liquidity and market linkages for their produce and become sustainable through collective action. • To provide handholding support to the FPOs for five years in all aspects of management of FPO, inputs, production, processing and value addition, market linkages, credit linkages and use of technology etc.
(b)	Whether it is a fact that the average size of household ownership holdings has declined in the last ten years, and if so, the reasons therefor; and	To provide effective capacity building to FPOs to develop agriculture-entrepreneurship skills to become economically viable and self-sustaining beyond the period of support from government.
(c)	Quantum of funds allocated used in the last five years, the year-wise and state-wise details thereof?	Under central sector scheme for Formation and promotion of 10,000 FPOs Scheme, formation of FPOs is based on Produce Cluster Area which means a geographical area wherein agricultural and allied produce such as horticultural produce of similar or of almost similar nature is cultivated. Benefits Extend under 10,000 FPOs scheme are. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) Management cost up to INR 18 lakhs over a period of 3 years for office and operational expenses. ii) Provision of Equity Grant of Rs. 2000/- per farmer to the ceiling of Rs.15 lakh/FPO on submission of member's own equity. iii) Credit Guarantee up to INR 2 crores. NABARD has created solely owned NABSANRAKSHAN Private Trustee Ltd. (NABTL) to manage sovereign Credit Guarantee Fund trust for FPO credit guarantee fund. iv) Capacity building, training and skill development of CEOs/ BoDs and other stakeholders. v) Handholding and support to new FPOs up to 5 years from the year of creation in all aspects of management of FPO, inputs, production, processing and value addition, market linkages, credit linkages and use of technology etc. As on date 7853 FPOs have been formed under the Scheme across the country.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. Sumathi S)
 Dy. Director (Admn)