

ND seen as more involved in farmers' problems, GPO poll finds

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New Democracy's government is seen to care more about farmers' problems and to be doing a better job of promoting the development of agriculture than their PASOK predecessors, according to a poll conducted by GPO that was released on Thursday.

The poll was conducted between December 5-9 on behalf of the Centre for Political Research and Communication.

According to the results of the poll, about 31.2 per cent believe that the present government cares more about farmers compared with PASOK, while 24.6 per cent believe the opposite. Around 40.2 per cent of those asked replied that neither government cared for farmers or that both were the same.

Slightly more (36.9 per cent) believe ND is promoting better policies for the development of agriculture in accordance with Community and national capabilities, compared with 24.6 per cent who believe that the previous PASOK government was better, while 36.1 per cent believe that ND has more effectively defended Greek positions for the agricultural sector in Europe, compared with 29 per cent who believe that PASOK was more effective.

About 37.5 per cent considers that a PASOK government under its current leader George Papandreou would be worse than the present government for agriculture overall, compared with 32.5 per cent who believe that a PASOK government would be better for farmers.

The poll shows widespread acceptance for current Agriculture Minister Evangelos Bassiakos, with 47 per cent of the public and 47.6 per cent of farmers having a positive image of him, compared with 41.4 per cent for his PASOK predecessor George Drys.