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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3375 TO BE ANSWERED ON 31/03/2023

AGRICULTURE'S SHARE IN EMPLOYMENT

3375. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA:

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

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that the share of employment in the agriculture sector stands at 43 per cent in India as compared to 25 per cent in China and typically less than 2 per cent in developed countries;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to reduce the share of population that is dependent on agriculture;and

(c) the initiatives taken so far to ensure transition of workforce from agriculture to non-agriculture sector?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI) is the primary source of data on employment and unemployment situation in India. As per Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) report, the percentage of workers in the usual status engaged in agriculture and allied sector during the last three years 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 are as under:

| Year | Distribution of workers in the usual status |
|---------|--|
| | engaged in agriculture and allied sector (%) |
| 2019-20 | 45.56 |
| 2020-21 | 46.46 |
| 2021-22 | 45.46 |

Further, Government has taken several policies, reforms, developmental programmes and schemes for making agriculture more profitable profession. These include:

(i) Supplementary income transfers under PM-KISAN of Rs 6000 per year in three equal instalments.

- (ii) Increase in Minimum Support Price (MSPs) for all Kharif & Rabi crops ensuring a minimum of 50 percent of profit margin on the cost of production,
- (iii) Crop insurance under Pradhan Mantri FasalBimaYojna (PMFBY),
- (iv) Better access to irrigation under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY),
- (v) Special attention for creation of infrastructure through Agri Infrastructure Fund (AIF) with a size of Rs. 100,000 crore,
- (vi) New procurement policy under PM-AASHA in addition to FCI operations,
- (vii) Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) offering production loan to even dairy & fishery farmers besides agricultural crops,
- (viii) Formation and promotion of 10,000 FPOs,
- (ix) National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), which aims to evolve and implement strategies to make Indian agriculture more resilient to the changing climate.
- Adoption of drone technologies in agriculture which has a potential to revolutionize the Indian agriculture.
- (xi) Benefits accruing under Bee-Keeping, Rashtriya Gokul Mission, Blue Revolution, Interest Subvention Scheme, agro-forestry, restructured bamboo mission, implementation of new generation watershed guidelines, etc
- (xii) Focus on application of digital technology at all stages of agricultural value chain.
- (xiii) Supply of fertilizer to farmer at subsidized price so as to reduce input cost.
