

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1454
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15/12/2023

MIGRATION OF FARMERS

1454. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that large number of farmers are leaving their agricultural profession and migrating to cities for jobs as labourers due to unremunerative agriculture;
- (b) if so, the number of farmers who have left their profession due to unremunerative agriculture during 2021, 2022 and 2023 till date, State-wise along with the source of information; and
- (c) the reasons for failure of Government to make agriculture profitable?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI ARJUN MUNDA)

(a) to (c):The shift in workforce from primary (agriculture) sector to secondary and tertiary sectors is a normal phenomenon of the development process experienced by countries across the world and the same is true for India as well. As per Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2021-22 and 2022-23 released by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI), the percentage of workers in the usual status engaged in agriculture and allied sector during 2019-20 to 2022-23 are as under:

Year	Distribution of workers in the usual status engaged in agriculture and allied sector (%)
2019-20	45.6
2020-21	46.5
2021-22	45.5
2022-23	45.8

Source: Annual Reports, Periodic Labour Force Survey, MoSPI. (2019-20 to 2022-23)

Agriculture is a state subject. The Government of India supports State Governments through implementation of various Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector Schemes for the benefit of farmers and to ensure the growth & development of the agriculture sector in the country.

Several policies, reforms, developmental programmes and schemes have been undertaken to increase the income/profits of farmers, which inter-alia include the following:

- (i) Supplementary income transfers under PM-KISAN of Rs 6000 per year in three equal installments;
- (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 Fasal Bima Yojna (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;
- (x) 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; and
- (xiii) Supply of fertilizer to farmer at subsidized price so as to reduce input cost among others.
