

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 516
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/02/2018

FARMING ACTIVITIES BY MACHINE

516. SHRI ANOOP MISHRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the study of Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal, the majority of farming activities is being done by machine and human power is shrinking in the farming sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Madhya Pradesh; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) & (b): Yes, the share of mechanical power sources such as tractors increased from 6.8 to 45.8%, electric motors increased from 14 to 26.8%, power tillers increased from 0.3 to 0.8% during the period 1971-72 to 2012-13. The share of human power (agricultural worker power) came down from 15.4% in 1971-72 to 5.0% in 2012-13. Similarly, the share draught animals in total farm power availability in India reduced from 45.4 to 5.1% during 1971-72 to 2012-13.

The combined share of agricultural workers and draught animals in total farm power availability in India reduced from 61 to 10% during 1971-72 to 2012-13. The percentage of agricultural workers to total workers decreased from 59.10 to 54.60% during 1991 to 2011; and it is expected that this figure may go down to 40.60% by 2020.

In Madhya Pradesh, tillage, sowing and threshing operations are mechanized to levels of 40%, 15% and 60%, respectively.

(c) The mechanization improves the timeliness in farm operations, save time and labour, reduces drudgery, cut down production cost in the long run, reduces post-harvest losses. Increase of the machine power and reduction of the human power in agriculture may be considered as good sign of development. In general, farm productivity improves with increase in the power input to the agriculture.
