

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3185  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2018**

**SHORTAGE OF FARM LABOURERS**

**3185. SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the shortage of farm labourers is being constantly felt in the country during the last few years;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether the implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act has also diverted farm labourers to other sectors of jobs, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the corrective measures taken/ being taken by the Government in this regard along with the extent of success achieved therefrom?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a) & (d) As per data available with National Sample Survey Office, estimated number of casual labour engaged in public works and number of casual labour in works other than public works engaged in agriculture sector in usual status (Public sector + Social Sector) in India obtained from NSS surveys during 2004-05, 2009-10 and 2011-12:**

year	estimated number (in million) in usual status (Public Sector + Social Sector)	
	casual labour in public works (including MGNREG public works)	casual labour in agriculture sector in works other than public works
2004-05	0.59	82.98
2009-10	4.29	82.88
2011-12	6.35	69.45

**Contd..2/-**

**Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) is a demand driven wage employment programme. MGNREGS provides livelihood security i.e., fall back option for livelihood for the rural households when no better employment opportunity is available. The Act guarantees 100 days of wage employment to any willing rural household in a financial year. An additional 50 days are provided over and above 100 days in the notified drought affected areas. Members of the household are free to avail wage opportunity under MGNREGS or other available employment opportunities. The demand and supply of labour for various sectors of the economy depend upon several factors like wage rates, economic prospects, absorption capacity, regional and climatic conditions, demographic profile of the work force etc.**

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