

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1099

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13TH DECEMBER, 2022

AGRICULTURE AS A SOURCE OF LIVING

1099. SHRI VELUSAMY P.

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

- (a) whether the agriculture along with its allied sectors is the largest source of livelihood in the country as 70 percent of its rural households still depend primarily on agriculture for their livelihood with 82 percent of farmers being small and marginal in 2017-18, total foodgrain production was estimated at 275 million tonnes (MT) and also we are the largest producer (25% of global production), consumer (27% of world consumption) and importer (14%) of pulses in the world;
- (b) whether the Government will take steps for separate budget for agriculture taking into consideration the welfare of the farmers; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): According to Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), 2020-21 conducted by Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI), the percentage of rural workers including small and marginal farmers in the usual status engaged in agriculture sector of the country is 60.8%. As per the Agricultural Statistics At A Glance 2021, India contributed 25.44 % of global production for pulses in the year 2019. India was second largest importer (14.12%) of pulses in the year 2020-21. There has been record foodgrain production of 310.74 Million Tonnes in the year 2020-21

(a) and (c): There is no proposal to introduce a separate budget for agriculture. However, Government of India provides top most priority to the sector which is the backbone of the Indian economy. This is reflected in the fact that budget allocation for the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare is very substantial. It has increased from Rs 27,662.67 crore in 2013-14 to Rs 1,32,513.62 crore in 2022-23, i.e. an absolute increase of 379%.
