

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3547

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH AUGUST, 2021

WORKFORCE REDUCTION IN AGRICULTURE

3547. SHRI MARGANI BHARAT:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the report on 'Women and Men in India, 2020' of Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation which indicates that the share of workforce (men) in agriculture has come down by nearly 20% and women by more than 10% between 1990 and 2019;
- (b) whether it is also true that there is gradual shift from agriculture to other areas; and
- (c) if so, whether the Government has made any assessment about the impact on agriculture and food security of the country in the coming decades?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): As per the Report on 'Women and Men in India, 2020' of Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI), the share of workforce of men and women in agriculture has declined in both the rural and urban areas during the period 1987-88 to 2019-20. The country has witnessed relatively much faster rate of growth in sectors other than agriculture on account of structural changes due to a shift from a traditional agrarian economy to industry and service dominated one. This phenomenon is generally expected in the normal development process of developing economies including India. The percentage distribution of workers in agriculture in usual status (ps+ss) for the period 1987-88 to 2019-2020 are given below:

Contd.....2/-

(in percentage)

Year	Rural		Urban	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1987-88 (43 rd Round)	74.5	84.7	9.1	29.4
1993-94 (50 th Round)	74.1	86.2	9.0	24.7
1999-00 (55 th Round)	71.4	85.4	6.6	17.7
2004-05 (61 st Round)	66.5	83.3	6.1	18.1
2009-10 (66 th Round)	62.8	79.4	6.0	13.9
2011-12 (68 th Round)	59.4	74.9	5.6	10.9
2017-18 (PLFS)	55.0	73.2	5.4	9.1
2018-19 (PLFS)	53.2	71.1	4.9	7.8
2019-20 (PLFS)	55.4	75.7	5.0	8.2

Source : Social Statistics Division, MoSPI

Note: Period Labour Force Survey (PLFS), usual status worker (ps+ss): The workers in the usual status (ps+ss) are obtained by considering the usual principal status (ps) and the subsidiary status (ss) together.

(c): As per NITI Aayog's Working Group Report (February, 2018) on Demand & Supply Projections towards 2033 for Crops, Livestock, Fisheries and Agricultural Inputs, the aggregate demand of foodgrains for 2021-22, 2028-29 and 2029-30 is projected at 280.03 million tonnes, 314.37 million tonnes and 319.81 million tonnes respectively. The aggregate supply of foodgrains for 2021-22, 2028-29 and 2029-30 is projected at 303.97 million tonnes, 353.17 million tonnes and 361.06 million tonnes respectively. Planning for food security and management of grain supply in the immediate future depends on the empirical prediction of demand and supply of foodgrains.
