

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2147
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2002
SHARE OF AGRICULTURE IN GDP
V. VETRISELVAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the share of agriculture sector in the total GDP and employment generation has declined over the last one decade;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether most of the States are dependent on agriculture for generating employment;
- (d) if so, the estimated decline in agriculture sector registered for GDP in the country specially in the States of Tamilnadu, Maharashtra and Gujarat; and
- (e) the steps being taken to improve this situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The share of Agriculture including Animal Husbandry in GDP at current prices has declined from 28.4 percent in 1993-94 to 24.0 percent 1999-2000; and in the year 2000-01 it had reached the level of 22.7 percent. According to the quinquennial surveys on employment and unemployment conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation, the percentage of males employed, by usual employment status, in the rural areas in agriculture out of the total employed males in the rural areas was 74.1 in 1993-94 and 71.4 in 1999-2000. The corresponding percentages in respect of females in the rural areas were 86.2 for 1993-94 and 85.4 for 1999-2000. The decline in the share of agriculture in GDP and percentage of persons employed in agriculture over the years takes place in the process of economic development.

(c): Though agriculture has the major portion of employed persons so far, the decrease in the proportion of persons employed in agriculture over the years indicates higher employment generation potential in the non-agricultural sector.

(d): The share of agriculture including animal husbandry in the State Domestic Product of the States of Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Gujarat for the years 1993-94, 1999-2000 and 2000- 2001 are as under:

Percent share of agriculture in State Domestic Product at current prices

Year Tamil Nadu Maharashtra Gujarat All India

1993-94	21.2	19.4	22.6	28.4
1999-2000	14.8	14.4	14.7	24.0
2000-01	13.7	11.5	12.4	22.7

(e) To increase contribution of agriculture to GDP in absolute terms by increasing production and productivity of agricultural commodities in the country, the Government have launched various initiatives such as promotion of watershed development programmes, emphasis on developing and promoting new technologies, measures for increasing availability of agricultural credit, Market Information Network, National Agriculture Insurance Scheme etc. Besides, the Government also encourages farmers to increase production through price policy which includes implementation of Minimum Support Price, Procurement by public agencies etc. Apart from these, the Government have also switched over from the conventional schematic approach to macro-management mode from November, 2000 for providing assistance to the States so as to give flexibility to States to address specific problems faced by them depending on local requirements.