

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:213
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2007
INSURANCE COVERAGE TO AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) the number of agricultural labourers living below the poverty line engaged in the unorganized sector in the country, as on date, State-wise;
- (b) whether there is a proposal to provide them with insurance coverage;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the schemes and programmes implemented or to be implemented by the Government during each of the last three years for their upliftment?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 213 FOR 27.08.2007 REGARDING INSURANCE COVERAGE TO AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS

(a): Based on the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in 2004-05, it has been estimated that the percentage of rural population 'Below Poverty Line' was 21.8%, a majority of which would be in the category of agricultural labours. As per Census 2001 (latest available), the number of agricultural workers in India was 10.67 crores. A statement showing the state-wise data of agricultural workers is annexed.

(b) & (c): The Unorganised Sector Workers Social Security Bill and formulation of social security scheme for unorganized workers are under active consideration and all efforts are being made to introduce the Bill during the current session of Parliament. The modalities of the scheme and coverage thereof are being examined.

(d): There are various schemes/ programmes being implemented by the Government for the welfare of rural labour, including agricultural labourers. Some of such schemes are: Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana; Sampurna Grameen Rojgar Yojana; Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana; National Social Assistance Programme; etc. The Government has recently enacted National Rural Employment Guarantee Act which provides 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manualwork.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 213 FOR 27.08.2007 REGARDING INSURANCE COVERAGE TO AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS

NUMBER OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS IN THE COUNTRY

(Source: Census 2001)

Sl.No. Name of the State/UTs Total

1. Andhra Pradesh	13832152
2. Arunachal Pradesh	18840
3. Assam	1263532
4. Bihar	13417744
5. Chhatisgarh	3091358
6. Goa	35806
7. Gujarat	5161658
8. Haryana	1278821
9. Himachal Pradesh	94171
10. Jammu & Kashmir	246421
11. Jharkhand	2851297

12. Karnataka	6226942
13. Kerala	1620851
14. Madhya Pradesh	7400670
15. Maharashtra	10815262
16. Manipur	113630
17. Meghalaya	171694
18. Mizoram	26783
19. Nagaland	30907
20. Orissa	4999104
21. Punjab	1489861
22. Rajasthan	2523719
23. Sikkim	17000
24. Tamil Nadu	8637630
25. Tripura	276132
26. Uttar Pradesh	13400911
27. Uttaranchal	259683
28. West Bengal	7362957
29. A & N Islands	5169
30. Chandigarh	563
31. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	14715
32. Daman & Diu	1323
33. Delhi	15773
34. Lakshadweep	00
35. Pondicherry	72251

Total 106775330

NOTE: India and Manipur figures exclude Mao Maram, Paomata and Purul sub-divs of Senapati District in Manipur state as census results were cancelled due to administrative and technical reasons.