

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:530
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2012
LANDLESS AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS
Shantha J.

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

- (a) the estimated number of landless women and men workers who are engaged as agricultural labourers in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the ratio of female and male workforce in the said sector;
- (c) the contribution of this workforce to the National income; and
- (d) the social security measures undertaken by the Government for the above workforce?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(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. 530 FOR ANSWER ON 14.05.2012 REGARDING LANDLESS AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS RAISED BY SHRIMATI J. SHANTHA.

(a) As per Census, 2001, there were more than 10.67 crore landless agricultural workers. Out of which about 5.73 crore were men and about 4.94 crore women. State-wise number of landless agricultural workers (men and women) is annexed.

(b) The female and male landless agricultural labourers are in the ratio of 54:46.

(c) As per Economic Survey, 2011-12, the agriculture sector accounts for 12.3% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2010-11.

(d) With a view to providing social security to unorganised workers, including landless agricultural labourers, the Government enacted the "Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008". The Act provides for constitution of National Social Security Board to recommend social security schemes, namely, life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection and any other benefit as may be determined by the Government for unorganised workers.

The following are the recent initiatives undertaken by the Government for unorganised sector, including landless agricultural labourers:

(i) The Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) was launched on 01.04.2008, to provide smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs. 30,000/- per annum on family floater basis to BPL families (a unit of five) in the unorganised sector.

(ii) The Aam Admi Bima Yojana (AABY) was launched on 02.10.2007 with a view to providing insurance cover to the head of family or one earning member of rural landless households between the age of 18 years and 59 years.

(iii) The Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) has been expanded by revising the criteria of eligibility. All citizens above the age of 60 years and living below poverty line are eligible for benefits under the scheme.