

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7477  
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012  
MIGRATION OF FARMERS  
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there are reports of large scale migration of farmers from agricultural/rural areas to urban areas during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the extent thereof;
- (c) the impact of such migration on agricultural production; and
- (d) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): Migration of people, including farmers from rural areas to urban areas is a natural phenomenon in the development process. People migrate from labour surplus areas to labour deficient areas including urban areas. No large scale migration of farmers is reported from any of the major Indian states during the last two years.

(c): There is no major adverse impact of migration on agricultural production due to shortage of labour.

Total foodgrains production in India has increased from 244.78 million tones in 2010-11 to 252.56 million tones in 2011-12. Similarly cotton production has increased from 330 lakh tones to 352 lakh tones, Sugarcane production have increased from 3423.82 lakh tones to 3511.93 lakh tones during 2010-11 and 2011- 12 respectively.

However, due to the rising demand for labour in rural areas in the context of overall development and employment created under MGNREGA, the general wage level in the rural areas has increased in recent years. This has increased the cost of production of farm goods in general.

(d): Government does not take any measures to stop migration in general. However to reduce distress migration from rural areas to urban areas Government is implementing MGNREGA and other social safety net programmes.