

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2330
ANSWERED ON:28.03.2012
NSSO REPORT ON WORKERS IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR
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Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) reports reveal decline in the number and percentage of workers engaged in the agriculture sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether in view of the dismal performance of the agriculture sector, the Planning Commission has evolved any strategy to accelerate the growth in the said sector commensurate with the rise in employment opportunities in the sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) & (b): As per the Key Indicators of Employment and Unemployment in India 2009-10, brought out by the National Sample Survey Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoS&PI), in rural areas nearly 63 per cent of the male workers and nearly 79 per cent of the female workers were engaged in agriculture. The corresponding figures for 2004-05, as per the NSS Report No. 515, about 67 per cent of the males and 83 per cent of the females were engaged in agricultural sector. On the other hand, in urban areas nearly 6 per cent of male workers and 14 per cent of female workers were working in agriculture in 2009-10. Corresponding figures for 2004-05, were 6 per cent for males and 18 per cent for females respectively.

(c) & (d): Growth in agriculture in the Eleventh Plan is likely to average 3.3 per cent per year as compared to 2.2 per cent in the Tenth Plan. 4.0 per cent average growth is targeted for Twelfth Plan period. In 2003-04 Gross Capital Formation in agriculture and allied sectors formed 10.2% of the Agricultural GDP which has increased to 20.3% in 2009-10.

The National Development Council (NDC) in 2007, held a special meeting exclusively on agriculture. Two major schemes namely Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and National Food Security Mission (NFSM) were introduced consequent to the NDC resolution of 2007. Additional Central Assistance (ACA) based RKVY takes care of these areas. The programmes for the development of agriculture aim at diversifying income portfolio of farmers to high value crops such as horticulture, floriculture as well as non-crop farming such as livestock, poultry etc., increasing productivity through transfer of new technologies, subsidizing inputs, promoting mechanization, involving farmers in agricultural planning decisions and conserving natural resources.

During the XII Five Year Plan the significant points of intervention on the production side have been identified as continuation of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), augmenting National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) including Micro Irrigation, National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMO & OP), National Mission on Agricultural Extension & Technology and continuation of the National Horticulture Mission (NHM), etc. which inter alia would benefit the farm and non-farm level employment opportunities.

Agriculture continues to be a priority sector. The total plan outlay of the Ministry of Agriculture (excluding RKVY) has been increased by 25% per cent from Rs. 12860.7 crore in 2011-12 (RE) to Rs 16,121 crore in 2012-13.

In addition, outlay for Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for the states is being increased from Rs. 7810 crore in 2011-12 to Rs. 9,217 crore in 2012-13.

Dairy development is being strengthened further by launching a World Bank assisted National Dairy Plan with a total cost of Rs 2,242 crores. Also, to broaden the scope of production of fish to coastal aquaculture, the outlay in 2012-13 is being stepped up to Rs 500 crore.