GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3554
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AGRICULTURAL WORKERS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the report of the Institute of Applied Manpower Research (IAMR), 15 million workers shifted out of the agriculture sector to the manufacturing and service sector during 2005-2010;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this trend indicates a declining growth in the agriculture sector;
- (d) whether the share of agriculture in employment has come down from 57 per cent to 53 per cent during the above period;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to arrest the decline in the share of the agriculture sector in employment?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

- (a) to (e): Institute of Applied Manpower Research in their Occasional Paper No.9/2012 on "Joblessness and Informalization: Challenges to inclusive Growth in India" has stated that 15 million workers shifted out of the agriculture sector to the manufacturing and service sector during 2005-2010. The share of agriculture in total employment has fallen from 57 per cent in 2005 to 53 per cent in 2010. The report further states that "the share of industry and services in output has increased sharply in the last 20 years resulting in their rising share in GDP. The share of agriculture sector is hovering around 15 percent of GDP (2010). This indeed is a welcome change and this highlights the growing relative importance of the more productive sectors". The declining share of agriculture in GDP is an observed trend in the development process.
- (f): Important programmes implemented in agriculture sector like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Gramin Bhandaran Yojana, Development of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Micro Irrigation, Integrated Scheme of Oilseed, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) are aimed at increasing agricultural production and productivity also create on-farm and non-farm employment opportunities.