

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6584
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013
EMPLOYMENT IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR
Ram Shri Purnmasi

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a huge potential for employment in the agriculture sector in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the schemes launched for increasing the income of farmers and creating employment opportunities in the agriculture sector;
- (d) whether the Government has established various specialised training centres for unemployed rural youths in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): According to Eleventh Five Year Plan document brought out by Planning Commission, agriculture contributed 8.8 million job opportunities from 1993-94 to 2004-05. It is projected to contribute no increase in the Eleventh Plan and a net decrease of 4 million agricultural workers over the Twelfth Plan period (2006-07 to 2016-17). There is no potential for massive increase in employment in agricultural sector. However the indirect employment is likely to increase with increase in agricultural production particularly in agro-processing and in support infrastructure.

Several schemes launched in the agriculture sector aim at increasing production and productivity and in the process also create additional income and employment opportunities. Important programmes include National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Gramin Bhandaran Yojana, Development of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Micro Irrigation, Rural Credit, Integrated Scheme of Oilseed, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM).

These schemes apart from increasing agricultural production and productivity also create on-farm and non-farm employment.

(d) & (e): A Central Sector Scheme, "Establishment of Agri-Clinics and Agri- Business Centres (ACABC)" by Ministry of Agriculture has been under implementation since April, 2002 to supplement the efforts of public extension, support agricultural development and create gainful self-employment opportunities to unemployed youths with qualification in agriculture and allied sectors for establishing Agri-ventures in rural areas. Under the Scheme a two months training is provided on Agri-preneurship through identified Nodal Training Institutes (NTIs) across the country and trained candidates are provided hand holding support by the NTIs for formulating a bankable agri-ventures project to avail loan from banks for the same. Since inception of the scheme, 32,683 candidates have been trained and 12,992 agri-ventures have been established in the country till 31.3.2013 by the trained candidates. State-wise details are as shown at annexure-I