

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4855
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2014
AGRICULTURAL WORKERS
Hansdak Shri Vijay Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the general wage level of agricultural workers has increased over the years consistent with the rise in the other sectors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the wage rise in the sector has not been able to arrest distress migration of agricultural workers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken by the Government to ensure adequate availability of agricultural workers and also to sustain agricultural production?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b): A table indicating the average daily wages for agricultural field labour (male) for ploughing and harvesting at all India level and the average wages paid for industries covered under Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) is given below which shows that percentage increase in average wage for agriculture (ploughing and harvesting) was higher than percentage increase in average wage for industrial workers covered by ASI during the period 2009-10 to 2011-12.

Wage in Agriculture & Non-Agriculture Sector during 2009-10 to 2012-13
(Wages in Rs. Per day)

Occupation	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	% increase
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during 2009-10
to 2011-12

Ploughing	120.9	145.5	170.5	204.1	41.0
Harvesting	102.8	122.5	148.5	176.2	44.5
Non - Agriculture Sector	206.2	237.0	262.1	Not Available	27.1

Agriculture

Sector

(Industry

Covered by

ASI)

Source: Labour Bureau and CSO.

(c) & (d): Distress migration of agricultural workers is addressed through various employment and livelihood promotion programmes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural employment Act (MGNREGA), etc.

(e): There is generally adequate availability of agricultural labour to sustain agricultural production. However in order to address issues of higher cost and peak season shortage of agricultural labour and to improve the productivity of agriculture, farm mechanization is promoted by the Government.