

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:457  
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2016  
Women Friendly Agricultural Equipments  
Adsul Shri Anandrao ;Raut Shri Vinayak Bhaurao

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether migration of agricultural workers and poor people from rural areas to cities in search of jobs has adversely impacted the agriculture/farming sector in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering a plan to develop women-friendly farm equipment to sustain the agriculture sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

श्री सुदर्शन भगत ( SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) & (b): As per Economic Survey 2013-14, the share of agriculture and allied sector in total employment in the country declined from 59.9% in 1999-2000 to 58.5% in 2004-05 and further to 48.9% in 2011-12. This reduction is on account of growth of secondary and tertiary sector and is considered as a natural part of the development process. Main reasons for migration include poverty, high population pressure on land, lack of basic infrastructural facilities like health care and education, better job opportunities, relatively higher wages etc. However, the adverse impact of migration on the agriculture/farming sector is compensated by increased level of agricultural mechanization which is evident from the fact that the farm power availability in India has increased from 0.47 kW/ha in the year 2000 to 1.84 kW/ha in the year 2013-14.

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(c) to (e): In order to enable women to perform various farm operations with lesser drudgery, various implements and hand tools have been developed by different agricultural institutes under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) viz. Central Institute for Women in Agriculture, Bhubaneswar; Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering (CIEAE), Bhopal and All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) Centres in State Agriculture Universities. The National Gender Resource Centre in Agriculture under the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare has brought out a compendium of the Gender Friendly Tools/Equipments for Women in Agriculture.

The use of gender friendly equipments is promoted through training, demonstration and financial assistance under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization. Women beneficiaries are provided 10% additional financial assistance for purchase of various agricultural machines and equipments. State Governments have also been directed to ensure flow of benefits to women farmers by way of earmarking at least 30% of allocation of this Sub-Mission.

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