

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:291
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2014
MIGRATION OF FARM WORKERS
Patil Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is taking steps to stop the migration of farm workers in the country; and
(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b): Information on migration of farm workers to urban areas is not maintained. However, 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 48.9% in 2011-12. This reduction is on account of growth of the secondary and tertiary sectors and is considered as a natural part of the development process.

The issue of distress migration, which may take place due to poverty, population pressure on land etc, is being addressed through various employment and livelihood promotion programmes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and by making institutional finance available to five lakh joint farming groups of "Bhoomi Heen Kisan" through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

Government has also taken a number of measures for the growth of agriculture and allied sectors on sustainable basis by way of increasing investment, improving farm practices, creating rural infrastructure, delivering credit, technology and other inputs and forging appropriate backward and forward linkages. Several schemes for the development of agriculture sector aim at increasing production, productivity and farm income.