

Each camp will last for a period of 25 days. In case a big works project is undertaken in any place, then a series of camps may be organised at the same site.

The first two days and the last two days of each camp will be set apart for briefing and orientation and for evaluation and dispersal respectively. The remaining days will be treated as actual working days when the members will work on the construction projects during the day time. In the spare time, the students and teachers, in consultation with the village community, will take up work where they can use their skill and learning. Illustrative list of such programmes are informal education, village sanitation work, study of land reforms, the effect of bank nationalisation on rural economy and problems relating to distribution and also of grains following nationalisation of the grain trade etc.

Finance

The scheme is being financed by the Central Government. The funds will be released directly to the universities and they, in turn, will release the funds to the colleges.

Proportion of Population Dependent on Agriculture in India

*811. SHRI DHARINDHAR DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the proportion of the population engaged in agriculture in India; now and in 1950;

(b) whether the lower the number in agriculture the greater the tempo of economic development and the scope of more employment; and

(c) if so, what steps the Government have taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):
(a) According to the Population Cen-

suses carried out in India, the proportion of population engaged in agriculture (i.e. the percentage of workers in agriculture cultivators and agricultural labourers to the total number of workers in the country) was 69.74 per cent in 1951 and 69.67 per cent in 1971. However, due to differences in concept and definitions, the figures of population engaged in agriculture as available from 1951 and 1971 Censuses are not comparable.

(b) and (c). It is generally the case that many developed countries have a small proportion of their work force in agriculture and the under-developed countries in general have a relatively large proportion of their work force engaged in agriculture. It is, however not universally true that the tempo of economic development and the scope for employment is greater where the number in agriculture is low. The tempo of economic development and the scope for employment in a country depend on a number of factors, including the natural resource endowments, capital available, technology and infra-structure for economic and social growth etc. Government is trying to increase the employment opportunities by intensification of agriculture and special programmes for small farmers, marginal farmers and agricultural labour and crash programme for rural employment, and also by encouraging the development of industries.

विश्वविद्यालय स्तर पर गांधी साहित्य का पढ़ाया जाना

*813. श्री बनसाहेब प्रधान : क्या शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण और संस्कृति मंत्री यह बताते की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या विश्वविद्यालय स्तर पर गांधी साहित्य को लाने का कोई प्रस्ताव केन्द्रीय सरकार के विचाराधीन है; और