

#### **Children employed in MNC seed farms and Bt. Cotton farms**

3842. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of children including tribal children are being employed in various MNC seed farms and Bt. Cotton farms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Central Government is actively considering to take any step to stop the practice and free the children;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) No specific complaint has been received. Moreover, employment of children in Bt. Cotton farms is not prohibited under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986.

(c) to (e) The State Government is the appropriate authority in enforcing the provisions laid down in Part-III of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. The Government regularly monitors the enforcement of the provisions of Act.

#### **Ratio of female and male work force in agriculture sector**

3843. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise estimated number of women and men workers who do not own land but are engaged as agricultural labourers in the country;
- (b) the per thousand distribution of female and male work force in agriculture sector;
- (c) the contribution of this work force in national income; and
- (d) the social security measures undertaken by Government for the above work force?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) The State-wise number of landless agricultural workers (men and women) is given in the Statement (*See below*). The per thousand distribution of female and male workforce in agriculture sector is 463 and 536 respectively.

(c) As per Economic Survey, 2010-11, the agriculture sector accounts for 12.3% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2009-10.