## Government's expenditure on agriculture

1434. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government's expenditure on agriculture and its ancillary activities is decreasing when the former accounts for 67% of employment in the country;
- (b) what percentage of this decline is contributed because of loss of agriculture land to large scale industrial and other projects;

<sup>&</sup>amp; Additional incentive of Rs. 500 per quintal payable in respect of kharif pulses sold to procurement agencies during the harvest/arrival period of two months.

- (c) what alternative options for employment are being provided to and envisaged for those who are deprived of jobs in the agriculture sector; and
  - (d) the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) No, Sir. Plan allocation for the schemes of this Ministry has increased from Rs.8090 crore in; 2007-08 to Rs.25338 crore in 2012-13. According to Census 2001, Agriculture sector accounted for about 58 per cent employment in the country.

- (b) In view of (a), above this does not arise.
- (c) and (d) Government is implementing the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act which aims at enhancing the livelihood security of people in rural areas by guaranteeing hundred days of wage-employment in a financial year to a rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Employment provided under MGNREGA in different States/UTs during 2011-12 is given in Statement (*See* below).

In addition to the above flagship scheme, Government is also implementing a number of other schemes for creating employment/self-employment opportunities in rural areas, notable being the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY), Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Agri-Clinics & Agri-Business Centres (ACABC) scheme etc.

Statement

Employment provided under MGNREGA in different
States/UTs during 2011-12

Sl. N	To. Name of the State/UT	Employment provided (in lakh Persondays)
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	8.14
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2767.69
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.51
4.	Assam	353.44

Written Answers to		[24 August, 2012]	Unstarred Questions	
1	2		3	
5.	Bihar		626.79	
6.	Chandigarh		0	
7.	Chhattisgarh		1212.89	
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli		0	
9.	Daman & Diu		0	
10.	Goa		3.11	
11.	Gujarat		311.21	
12.	Haryana		108.91	
13.	Himachal Pradesh		261.06	
14.	Jammu and Kashmir		162.2	
15.	Jharkhand		601.24	
16.	Karnataka		699.57	
17.	Kerala		631.92	
18.	Lakshadweep		1.47	
19.	Madhya Pradesh		1574.48	
20.	Maharashtra		651.22	
21.	Manipur		205.13	
22.	Meghalaya		161.64	
23.	Mizoram		122.82	
24.	Nagaland		254.78	
25.	Odisha		453.73	
26.	Puducherry		10.78	
27.	Punjab		64.36	

96	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]	Unstarred Questions
1	2		3
28.	Rajasthan		2107.73
29.	Sikkim		32.75
30.	Tamil Nadu		3014.16
31.	Tripura		490.12
32.	Uttar Pradesh		2652.99
33.	Uttarakhand		190.32
34.	West Bengal		1433.61
	Grand Total		21170.77

## Harmful effects of pesticides

1435. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that use of pesticides in the country is increasing day by day;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that these pesticides are showing harmful effects on human being; and
  - (d) if so, the steps Government will take to minimize the use of pesticides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As compared to consumption of chemical pesticides of the tune of 55,539.65 M.T. (Technical grade) during 2010-2011, the consumption during 2011-12 has decreased to 50,583.47 M.T. (Technical grade).

(c) Pesticides are inherently toxic. These are regulated by Insecticides Act, 1968. Pesticides are registered by Registration Committee (RC) constituted under Section 5 of the Act, after evaluation of their efficacy and safety to human beings and animals and are allowed to be used as per the label/leaflets claims. The label/leaflets contain information on equipment to be used, dosage schedule & directions of use & safety precautions for spraying of pesticides. People are not affected by pesticides if used as per the label & leaflet claims and also by adhering to the safety precautions prescribed.