

agriculture sector include National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Gramin Bhandaran Yojana, Development of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Micro Irrigation, Integrated Scheme of Oilseed, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM).

These schemes apart from increasing agricultural production and productivity also create on-farm and non-farm employment, thus reducing the exodus from rural to urban areas.

#### **Employment opportunities in Agricultural sector**

1101. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that employment opportunities in agricultural sector have decreased; and

(b) if so, the details of action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) As per the report of the Working Group on Employment, Planning and Policy for the Twelfth Five Year Plan, the employment in Agriculture sector has declined from 258.93 Millions in 2004-05 to 243.21 Millions in 2009-10. Reasons for this decline are better employment opportunities in industry and services sectors, low productivity in agriculture, increasing urbanization and migration etc.

Government have taken various steps to improve productivity and create additional employment in agriculture sector. Important programmes implemented in agriculture sector include Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Gramin Bhandaran Yojana, Development of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Micro Irrigation, Integrated Scheme of Oilseed, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM).

These schemes apart from increasing agricultural production and productivity also create on-farm and non-farm employment.

#### **Setting up of Agricultural Research Centre in Tamil Nadu**

1102. SHRI A.A. JINNAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to set up an Agricultural Research Centre in Tamil Nadu;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) and (c) Question does not arise.

#### **Unauthorized slaughter houses**

1103. SHRI AVTAR SINGH KARIMPURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of unauthorized slaughter houses operating in various States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/Union Territory-wise;
- (c) the details of the cattle wealth slaughtered by these unauthorized slaughter houses during each of the last three years and the current year, State/ Union Territory-wise especially Punjab and Uttar Pradesh; and
- (d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) to (c) Data on unauthorized slaughter houses and the cattle slaughtered there is not available with the Department.

- (d) State Governments/Local Self Governments are the licensing authority for slaughter houses in the country and are also the competent authority to take the appropriate action against unauthorized slaughter houses, if any.

#### **Safe storage of foodgrains**

1104. SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of foodgrains required to be procured and stored annually for proper implementation of the Food Security Law;
- (b) the total storage capacity of foodgrains available in the country and whether it will be possible to keep the additional foodgrains to be procured for this scheme in the available storage space; and
- (c) if not, the plan to keep the additional foodgrains in safe storage so that these do not deteriorate making them inedible?