

Abandoning farming by farmers

2263. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been acute shortage of agricultural workers/labourers in the agriculture sector during each of the last three years and the current year, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has conducted any survey to assess the number of farmers/agricultural workers/labourers who have left farming/agricultural profession in the country;

(c) if so, the details and the results thereof, State-wise along with the main reasons identified for abandoning of farming by the farmers; and

(d) whether Government has conducted any survey in Vidarbha where farmers are finding it difficult to carry on with agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) As per Census 2011, the total number of agricultural workers in the country, comprising of cultivators and agricultural labourers, have increased from 234.1 million in 2001 to 263.1 million in 2011. State/UT-wise number of agricultural workers is given in the Statement (*See* below). However, studies on implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) have reported that the scheme has put competing demand on labour in the rural sector, thereby creating a temporary shortage of labour for agricultural operations, particularly, during the peak seasons of sowing and harvesting.

(b) and (c) Government periodically conducts Employment-Unemployment Surveys to assess activity-wise employment levels in the country. These are conducted annually by the Labour Bureau and every five years by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). In addition, under the Population Census conducted by the Registrar General of India (RGI) every ten years, total workers are enumerated on the basis of economic activity. However, no survey has been conducted to assess the number of farmers/agricultural workers/labourers who have left farming/agricultural profession in the country.

(d) The NSSO conducted "Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural households" during 70th round (January, 2013-December, 2013), including in Maharashtra, to study various aspects of farming, *viz.*, level of living, farming practices, possession of productive assets, awareness, resource availability, indebtedness, etc.

Statement*Number of agricultural workers in India (in Million)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Cultivators		Agricultural Labourers		Total	
		2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
ALL INDIA		127.31	118.81	106.78	144.33	234.09	263.14
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.59	1.25	0.25	0.55	1.84	1.80
2.	Himachal Pradesh	1.95	2.06	0.09	0.18	2.04	2.24
3.	Punjab	2.07	1.93	1.49	1.59	3.56	3.52
4.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Uttarakhand	1.57	1.58	0.26	0.40	1.83	1.98
6.	Haryana	3.02	2.48	1.28	1.53	4.30	4.01
7.	Delhi	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.06	0.07
8.	Rajasthan	13.14	13.62	2.52	4.94	15.66	18.56
9.	Uttar Pradesh	22.17	19.06	13.40	19.94	35.57	39.00
10.	Bihar	8.19	7.20	13.42	18.35	21.61	25.55
11.	Sikkim	0.13	0.12	0.02	0.03	0.15	0.15
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.28	0.30	0.02	0.04	0.30	0.34
13.	Nagaland	0.55	0.54	0.03	0.06	0.58	0.60
14.	Manipur (Excl. 3 Sub- divisions)	0.38	0.57	0.11	0.11	0.49	0.69
15.	Mizoram	0.26	0.23	0.03	0.04	0.29	0.27
16.	Tripura	0.31	0.30	0.28	0.35	0.59	0.65
17.	Meghalaya	0.47	0.49	0.17	0.20	0.64	0.69
18.	Assam	3.73	4.06	1.26	1.85	4.99	5.91

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	West Bengal	5.65	5.12	7.36	10.19	13.01	15.31
20.	Jharkhand	3.89	3.81	2.85	4.44	6.74	8.25
21.	Odisha	4.25	4.10	5.00	6.74	9.25	10.84
22.	Chhattisgarh	4.31	4.00	3.09	5.09	7.40	9.09
23.	Madhya Pradesh	11.04	9.84	7.40	12.19	18.44	22.03
24.	Gujarat	5.80	5.45	5.16	6.84	10.96	12.29
25.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
26.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.04	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.05	0.05
27.	Maharashtra	11.81	12.57	10.82	13.49	22.63	26.06
28.	Andhra Pradesh	7.86	6.49	13.83	16.97	21.69	23.46
29.	Karnataka	6.88	6.58	6.23	7.16	13.11	13.74
30.	Goa	0.05	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.09	0.06
31.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Kerala	0.72	0.67	1.62	1.32	2.34	1.99
33.	Tamil Nadu	5.12	4.25	8.64	9.61	13.76	13.86
34.	Puducherry	0.01	0.01	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.08
35.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.02

Note: The Census 2001 figures for India and Manipur exclude that of Mao Param, Paomata and Purul sub-divisions of Senapati district of Manipur.

Source: PCA, Census of India, 2011.

Implementation of NAIS

2264. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is covering all the crops that are listed under its mandate, if so, the details thereof;