

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.228
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH DECEMBER, 2023

WORKFORCE ENGAGED IN AGRICULTURE

*228. SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding the area under agriculture in the country;
- (b) the percentage of the country's workforce engaged in agriculture;
- (c) the details of the country's workforce that shifted from agriculture to industry and service sector during the last five financial years, State/UT wise;
- (d) whether more workers need to be weaned out of the agricultural sector; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to incentivize workers to move out of the agricultural sector?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 228 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 19TH DECEMBER, 2023.**

(a) to (e): As per the latest Land Use Statistics-at a Glance 2021-22 net sown area and gross cropped area in the country during 2021-22 are 1,410 lakh hectares and 2,191 lakh hectares, respectively.

According to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), about 45.76% of the total workforce is engaged in agriculture and allied sector during 2022-23.

The shift in workforce from primary (agriculture) sector to secondary and tertiary sectors is a normal phenomenon of the development process experienced by countries across the world and the same is true for India as well. Agriculture contributes around 15% of Gross Value Added (GVA) in the total economy and has been growing at 4.3% during last six years.

The Government of India has implemented various initiatives and policies to boost economic growth and employment in the country. These initiatives vary across the sectors as a broader strategy to promote economic growth and targeting towards creation of infrastructures, create employment opportunities, and address developmental challenges. The economic strategy has also focussed upon industrial, particularly manufacturing, and services sectors to boost employment growth to facilitate movement of labour from agriculture to these sectors.

The Government is implementing various schemes, which play a pivotal role in promoting agro-based industries by fostering a comprehensive and supportive ecosystem across the agricultural value chain. These schemes include Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), Formation & Promotion of new 10,000 FPOs, National beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Nam0 Drone Didi, National Bamboo Mission (NBM), Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region. These schemes contribute to the growth and development of agro based industries through infrastructure development, post-harvest management, farmer collectives, promoting agri start-ups etc. Some of the major initiatives of the Government include:

1. **Make in India:** Make in India initiative was launched in 2014, to facilitate investment, foster innovation, building best in class infrastructure, and making India a hub for manufacturing, design and innovation. The development of a robust manufacturing sector continues to be a key priority of the Indian Government. Since its launch, Make in India initiative has made significant achievements and presently focuses on 27

sectors under Make in India 2.0. which is implemented across various Ministries/Departments, Central Government, State Governments. Due to Make in India Initiative, FDI equity inflow in the manufacturing sector between 2014-2022 has increased by 57% over the previous 8 years i.e. 2006- 2014.

2. **National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP):** The NIP is a government initiative that focuses on enhancing infrastructure development across various sectors, including roads, railways, energy, and urban infrastructure. This can stimulate economic growth and create jobs. The NIP currently has 8,964 projects with a total investment of more than ₹108 lakh crore under different stages of implementation
3. **Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan (Self-Reliant India Initiative):** Introduced in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this initiative focuses on building a self-reliant and resilient India. It includes economic stimulus packages, reforms, and policies to boost various sectors and create employment opportunities. The scheme, which remained open for registrations until March 31, 2022, had set a target to benefit approximately 7.18 million employees across India. As of July 31, 2023, the scheme has already achieved an enrolment of over 7.58 million new employees, surpassing its initial employment generation target.
4. **Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme:** Keeping in view country's vision of becoming 'Atmanirbhar', Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Schemes for 14 key sectors have been announced with an outlay of Rs. 1.97 lakh crore to enhance India's Manufacturing capabilities and Exports. The purpose of the PLI Schemes is to attract investments in key sectors and cutting-edge technology; ensure efficiency and bring economies of size and scale in the manufacturing sector and make Indian companies and manufacturers globally competitive. These schemes have the potential of significantly boosting production, employment and economic growth over the next five years or so. The scheme has potential for creating 60 lakh new jobs.
5. **Skill India Mission:** Launched as part of the "Make in India" initiative, Skill India aims to train over 40 crore people in India in different skills. This includes providing training for non-agricultural employment opportunities. Under the scheme skill, re-skill and up-skill trainings are delivered through an extensive network of skill development centres/colleges/institutes etc. under various schemes, viz. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs). Under the Scheme, 140 lakh persons under PMKVY, 22 lakh persons under JSS, 25 lakh persons under NAPS and 65 lakh persons under CTS have been trained.

Apart from the above, Government is also implementing, amongst others, Start-up India, PM Gati Shakti, Digital India, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) etc. These would also boost economic growth and employment generation.
