

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3467

ANSWERED ON:15.05.2006

AGRICULTURAL LANDLESS LABOURERS

Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao;Yadav Shri Kailash Nath Singh

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made an assessment of the total number of agricultural landless labourers in the country;
- (b) if so, whether an increase has been registered in their number in 2005-06 as compared to 2004-05;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the place at which India ranks in the World in terms of landless agricultural labourers;
- (e) whether an assessment of the percentage increase in the rate of unemployment has been made during the last three years, State-wise;
- (f) if so, whether any scheme has been made to remove unemployment of agricultural labourers in 2006-07; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a) to (g): A statement is annexed.

Annexure

Statement referred in reply to Part (a) to (g) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.3467 for 15.05.2006 regarding agricultural landless labourers

(a) to (c) As per the information available from the census 1991 & 2001 (latest), the number of agricultural labourers in the country has gone up from 8.6 crore in 1991 to 10.7 crore in 2001. Year wise data is not available.

(d) The number of person employed in agriculture depends on the development of the country. Generally, more developed is the country; less is the employment in agriculture. Therefore strict comparison between the countries may not reflect the actual situation.

(e) Estimates of employment & unemployment are obtained through labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organization. Last two such surveys were conducted during 1993-94 and 1999-2000. Based on these surveys, State-wise unemployment rates during 1993-94 & 1999-2000 are given in the Table annexed.

(f)&(g) The Government is implementing various welfare and employment oriented schemes and programmes through various Ministries/Departments. Some of such schemes are Swarnjayanti Gram Swaroggar Yojana, National Social Assistance Programme, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana, Swarnjayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana, Sampoorna Grameen Rojgar Yojana etc. Recently, the Government has enacted National Rural Employment Guarantee Act which provides for 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.