

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3664  
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2006  
EMPLOYMENT RATE IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR  
Subbarayan Shri K.

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

- (a) whether the agriculture sector employs more persons than any other sector, both as farmers and agricultural workers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the rate of employment in agriculture sector during the past two decades;
- (c) the details of various Central welfare schemes for agriculture workers; and
- (d) the details of assistance provided to various States under each of such scheme during 2004-05 and 2005-06?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a): As per survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in 1999-2000, the total number of workers in the unorganised sector was 36.9 crores. Of this, 23.7 crore workers were in the agriculture sector.

(b): The statement is annexed.

(c) & (d): At present, there is no central labour welfare scheme exclusively for all agricultural workers. However, the Programmes that are being implemented by Ministry of Rural Development are aimed at sustainable development of rural areas with focus on poverty alleviation. While the `Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana` and the `National Rural Employment Guarantee Act` aim at providing wage employment, the objective of the `Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana` is to provide self employment to the rural poor, including agricultural workers.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (B) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3664 FOR 18.12.2006 REGARDING EMPLOYMENT RATE IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR.

Per 1000 distribution of usually employed persons in agriculture

(Source: NSSO)

NSS round(Survey period)	Rural		Urban		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
61st (2004-05)	665		833	61	181
55th (1990-00)	714		854	66	177
50th (1993-94)	741		862	90	247
43rd (1987-88)	745		847	91	294