

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 246
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

JOB CUTS IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

246. SHRI D.K. SURESH:

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

- (a) whether it is true that there are severe job cuts in the agricultural sector due to Covid -19 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has any estimate of the number of farmers and landless agricultural labourers who lost their jobs and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to provide relief to farmers in the wake of the Covid-19 crisis and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the other measures taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): As per the estimates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the First Quarter (April-June 2020-21) released by Central Statistics Office, the Agriculture & Allied sectors has recorded a growth of 3.4 percent over the corresponding period of the previous year.

Moreover, the Government of India (GoI) is implementing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act ((MGNREGA), 2005, through States/UTs which provides 100 days of wage employment in financial year to every rural household, including landless agricultural labourers whose adult member volunteers to do unskilled manual work.

In addition, GoI has launched Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan (GKRA) on 20th June, 2020 to boost employment and livelihood opportunities for migrant workers returning to their native villages and similarly affected citizens in rural areas, in the wake of COVID-19 outbreak. The Abhiyaan covers 116 districts of six (6) states namely, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.
