

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2094
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 09/08/2024

SHIFT FROM FOOD CROP TO CASH CROP

2094. SMT. RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a significant shift has been reported from food crops to cash crops in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the land diverted during the last three years, State-wise and year wise;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any survey regarding the potential shortage of food grains in the future, and if so, the details thereof and precautionary steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard; and
- (d) whether Government plans to incentivize the small farmers to have land of at least 5 acres to grow more food crops, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) & (b): As per the 3rd Advance Estimates 2023-24 released on 4th June 2024 by Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, the area under commercial/cash crops has been increased from 18,214.19 thousand hectares in agriculture year 2021-22 to 18,935.22 thousand hectares in agriculture year 2023-24. The state wise details for the last three years are given at **Annexure**. Evidently, the production of commercial/cash crops (Sugarcane, Cotton, Jute & Mesta) has also increased from 4,80,692 thousand tonnes in agriculture year 2021-22 to 4,84,757 thousand tonnes in agriculture year 2023-24.

(c) & (d): According the NITI Aayog Working Group Report, 2018, the Demand & Supply of food grains is estimated/ projected to the tune of 337.01 Million tonnes and 386.25 Million tonnes, respectively, for the future year 2032-2033, which indicates that the overall food grains will have quite comfortable position as far as food security is concerned.

The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is implementing National Food Security Mission (NFSM) with the objective of increasing food grains production through area expansion and productivity enhancement in all the 28 States and 2 Union Territories (Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh) of the country. Under NFSM, assistance is given through State governments to farmers

including small and marginal farmers for interventions like cluster demonstrations on Improved package of practices, demonstrations on cropping system, distribution of seeds of High Yielding Varieties (HYVs)/ hybrids, improved farm machineries/resource conservation machineries/ tools, efficient water application tools, plant protection measures, nutrient management/soil ameliorants, processing & post-harvest equipments, cropping system based trainings to the farmers etc. The Mission also provides support to Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) & State Agricultural Universities (SAUs)/ Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) for technology back stopping and transfer of technology to the farmer under supervision of Subject Matter Specialists/ Scientists.

Further, the Government through its Price Policy ensure the remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encouraging higher investment and production and to safeguard the interest of consumers by making available supplies at reasonable prices. In this direction, Government announces Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for twenty-two (22) mandated crops including commercial/cash crops by offering a higher MSP for these crops. The Union Budget for 2018-19 had announced the pre-determined principle to keep MSP at levels of one and half (1.5) times of the cost of production. Accordingly, Government is declaring MSPs for all mandated crops including commercial/cash crops with a return of at least 50 per cent over all India weighted average cost of production from the agricultural year 2018-19. The Government has also adopted and implemented several policies, reforms, developmental programmes to increase the production of crops as well as income of the farmers in the country. Some of the important programmes are listed as follows:

1. Income support to farmers through PM KISAN
2. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)
3. Institutional credit for agriculture sector
4. Promotion of organic farming in the country
5. Per Drop More Crop
6. Micro Irrigation Fund
7. Promotion of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)
8. Agricultural Mechanization
9. Providing Soil Health Cards to farmers
10. Setting up of National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) extension Platform
11. Agri. Infrastructure Fund (AIF)
12. Improvement in farm produce logistics, Introduction of Kisan Rail.
13. Creation of a Start-up Eco system in agriculture and allied sector
14. Achievement in Export of Agri. and Allied Agri- Commodities
15. Central sector Scheme Nam0 Drone Didi.

Annexure

Annexure in reference to Reply to part (a & b) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No.

2094 due for reply on 09.08.2024 regarding 'Shift from food crop to cash crop'

State-wise Area under Foodgrains and Commercial/Cash Crops from 2021-22 to 2023-24 (in Thousand Hectares)

State	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
	Food grains	Commercial/ Cash Crops	Food grains	Commercial/ Cash Crops	Food grains	Commercial/ Cash Crops
Andhra Pradesh	4010.00	602.00	3680.00	745.00	3328.00	450.00
Arunachal Pradesh	235.40	2.15	237.07	2.16	#	0.00
Assam	2554.52	94.95	2529.00	91.00	2579.00	89.00
Bihar	6443.77	274.84	6258.71	270.42	6518.18	268.64
Chhattisgarh	4760.92	39.31	4698.14	47.36	4727.87	47.42
Goa	36.15	0.53	35.12	0.49	#	0.00
Gujarat	4595.04	2506.66	4276.52	2664.80	4327.75	2884.94
Haryana	4225.77	743.30	4522.34	682.36	4589.91	665.90
Himachal Pradesh	710.94	1.49	691.67	1.44	691.76	1.43
Jharkhand	2833.24	0.00	2044.77	0.00	2238.77	0.00
Karnataka	7980.30	1311.00	7739.00	1608.40	7375.00	1282.00
Kerala	197.65	0.92	193.52	0.94	256.34	0.72
Madhya Pradesh	15925.10	653.00	18262.80	687.00	17712.93	745.00
Maharashtra	11584.61	5671.67	11310.70	5541.74	10727.83	5671.49
Manipur	258.08	4.94	246.39	5.03	#	0.00
Meghalaya	138.45	18.54	139.09	10.01	#	0.00
Mizoram	45.59	1.29	49.31	1.47	#	0.00
Nagaland	197.82	3.74	302.33	6.93	#	0.00
Odisha	5022.17	207.31	5106.27	229.83	5117.97	230.88
Punjab	6668.00	338.10	6764.09	339.20	6819.20	303.70
Rajasthan	14748.14	760.10	15026.27	818.14	14440.65	1007.95
Sikkim	54.32	0.00	51.56	0.00	#	0.00
Tamil Nadu	3974.07	295.90	3866.46	332.24	3819.87	283.16
Telangana	4742.00	1917.00	5696.08	2000.90	5581.73	1845.00
Tripura	300.82	2.14	278.41	1.57	#	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	19547.00	2181.00	20412.10	2797.55	20242.97	2530.00
Uttarakhand	788.00	44.00	748.33	47.00	707.19	91.27
West Bengal	6623.37	537.60	6070.36	534.85	6010.06	507.73
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	6.94	0.14	5.54	0.13	#	0.00
Chandigarh	0.64	0.00	0.67	0.00	NR	0.00
Dadra And Nagar Haveli	16.70	0.00	18.63	0.00	#	0.00
Daman And Diu	1.93	0.00	NR	0.00	#	0.00
Delhi	28.54	0.00	27.48	0.00	#	0.00
Jammu and Kashmir	877.02	0.13	878.47	0.23	#	0.00
Ladakh	15.59	0.00	15.82	0.00	#	0.00
Lakshadweep	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	0.00
Puducherry	20.29	0.47	21.26	1.74	#	0.00
Others	NA				2401.17	28.98
All India	130168.89	18214.22	132204.28	19469.93	130214.15	18935.21

Included in others

NR: Not Reported

NA: Not Applicable

Note: Commercial/ Cash Crops Includes Sugarcane, Cotton, Jute & Mesta.

Source: Third Advance Estimate 2023-24, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, New Delhi
