

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 745
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 05/12/2025

CHANGES IN CULTIVABLE LAND ACROSS STATES

745. SHRI A. A. RAHIM:

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

- (a) the net cultivable/agricultural area (in hectares) for each State in the country during the past five years, year –wise;
- (b) the number of States which have reported a net decrease in cultivable land during this period;
- (c) the primary causes identified by the Ministry for shrinkage of cultivable area; and
- (d) the corrective steps or land-conservation initiatives promoted by Government to prevent further loss of agricultural land?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): As per the latest annual publication on ‘**Land Use Statistics-at a Glance 2023-24**’, the net cultivable/agricultural area has remained stable, reflecting sustained agricultural capacity across the country. Due to the successful implementation of various government programmes and schemes, the Gross Cropped Area in the country has expanded significantly, rising from 201.3 million hectares in 2013-14 to 217.8 million hectares in 2023-24. The adoption of modern technologies and effective policy interventions has also led to a continuous improvement in cropping intensity, which has risen from 142.5% in 2013–14 to 156.8% in 2023–24, reflecting a positive shift toward multiple cropping practices, highlighting farmers’ enhanced ability to cultivate the same land more than once annually. State-wise details of the net cultivable/agricultural area (in thousand hectare) for the years 2019-20 to 2023-24 are given at **Annexure**.

(d): Land and agriculture are the state subjects, as per Entry No. 18 of List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, land falls under the jurisdiction of State Governments, which are responsible for taking appropriate measures to increase the area under cultivation and prevent the diversion of

agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes. However, the Government of India supports these efforts through policy initiatives and budgetary assistance.

Department of Land Resources is implementing Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY) which primarily focuses on development rainfed/degraded lands. The activities undertaken in the scheme, inter alia, include ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rainwater harvesting, nursery raising, pasture development, livelihoods for asset-less persons etc. The measures taken under WDC-PMKSY supplements the effort of the Government to increase the area under cultivation. This scheme has been approved by the Government on 15th December, 2021.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed several technological measures to increase the area under cultivation. This includes location specific bio-engineering to check soil erosion due to run-off of rainwater, sand dune stabilization and shelter belt technology to check wind erosion and reclamation technology for problem soils in the country. ICAR has also developed the gypsum technology package, consisting of land levelling, bunding, flushing, removal of excess water, good quality irrigation water, application of amendments, selection of crops and efficient nutrient management. ICAR also recommends several agronomic measures to improve the degraded soils and bringing them under crop cultivation, soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources (manner, biofertilizers etc.) of plant nutrient and location specific soil & water conservation measures for preventing deterioration of soil health and fertility.

The Central Government has enacted the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation & Resettlement (RFCTLARR) Act, 2013, which came into force on 01.01.2014. Under this act, land can be acquired for public purposes. Section 10 of the Act explicitly restricts the acquisition of multi-crop irrigated land, unless in exceptional cases where no alternative land is available. In such cases, equivalent wasteland must be developed for agriculture. However, the RFCTLARR Act, 2013, strongly discourages such conversions unless absolutely necessary. Wherever agricultural land is acquired, compensatory mechanisms, including monetary compensation, rehabilitation and resettlement benefits, and in some cases, land for land compensation, are provided to mitigate the impact on farmers.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (c) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 745 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05/12/2025 REGARDING CHANGES IN CULTIVABLE LAND ACROSS STATES

Net Cultivable/Agricultural Land (Area in Thousand Hectare)						
Sr.No	State/UT	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 (P)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8828	8817	8987	8979	8977
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	424	431	431	431	431
3.	Assam	3296	3295	3321	3315	3312
4.	Bihar	6557	6541	6542	6545	6548
5.	Chhattisgarh	5551	5542	5552	5556	5554
6.	Goa	141	141	141	139	141
7.	Gujarat	12388	12462	12428	12368	12317
8.	Haryana	3794	3847	3847	3950	3853
9.	Himachal Pradesh	821	821	831	843	828
10.	Jharkhand	4280	4319	4324	4311	4311
11.	Karnataka	12843	12846	12836	12812	12792
12.	Kerala	2232	2229	2223	2200	2186
13.	Madhya Pradesh	17183	17449	17432	17442	17423
14.	Maharashtra	20589	20509	20466	20394	20391
15.	Manipur	338	417	399	389	216
16.	Meghalaya	1010	1010	1015	1014	1014
17.	Mizoram	367	367	367	367	391
18.	Nagaland	676	674	672	669	668
19.	Odisha	6699	6654	6782	6742	6724
20.	Punjab	4238	4237	4225	4225	4226
21.	Rajasthan	25475	25473	25463	25464	25446
22.	Sikkim	97	97	97	103	103
23.	Tamil Nadu	8108	8106	8105	8105	8104
24.	Telangana	6785	6717	6715	6735	6728
25.	Tripura	270	270	270	269	269
26.	Uttarakhand	1545	1544	1541	1540	1564
27.	Uttar Pradesh	18614	18614	18264	18227	18237
28.	West Bengal	5608	5602	5595	5589	5583
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	28	28	28	28	22
30.	Chandigarh	1	1	1	1	1
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	23	23	23	22	22
32.	Delhi	53	53	53	52	59
33.	Jammu & Kashmir	1071	1074	1075	1094	1095
34.	Ladakh	28	28	28	32	32
35.	Lakshadweep	2	2	2	2	2
36.	Puducherry	28	28	28	28	28
	ALL INDIA	179992	180266	180112	179982	179596

- Source: Land Use Statistics at Glance, 2023-24, DA&FW
- Arable land consists of Net Area Sown, Current Fallow, Fallow Lands other than Current Fallows, Culturable Waste Land & Land Under Miscellaneous Tree Crops.
- Other names used for Arable land are Agricultural Land, Total Culturable Land, Total Cultivable Area
- P: Provisional.
