

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1024
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 22ND NOVEMBER, 2016

SALINITY IN SOIL

1024. SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment of soil salinity in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise along with the reasons for salinity of soil; and
- (c) the details of the measures taken by the Government to reduce the salinity of soil and the extent of success achieved as a result of these efforts?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. As per available estimates of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), an area of about 2.96 million hectare is affected by soil salinity across the country. State wise extent of area affected soil salinity is annexed. Soil salinity is mainly created due to saline parent material, secondary salinization and sea water intrusion.

(c): ICAR has developed various technologies for reclamation of Problem Soil consisting of subsurface drainage, bio-drainage, salt tolerant varieties of different crops (namely, rice, wheat and mustard) and agro-forestry interventions to improve the productivity of such lands. Besides, ICAR imparts training and organizes Field Level Demonstrations (FLDs) to educate farmers about latest technology adoption in this aspect.

Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has launched a "Reclamation of Problem Soil (RPS)" as a Sub-Scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) during 2016-17 for reclamation of problem soil (alkalinity, salinity and acid). Under this scheme states having larger extent of problem soil area are being given financial assistance for reclamation of such areas.

Annexure

State-wise areas affected by salinity in India including coastal areas

(Area in ha)

S. No.	State	Inland Saline soils	Coastal saline soil	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	77598	77598
2	A & N islands	0	77000	77000
3	Bihar	47301	0	47301
4	Gujarat	1218255	462315	1680570
5	Haryana	49157	0	49157
6	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0
7	Karnataka	1307	586	1893
8	Kerala	0	20000	20000
9	Maharashtra	177093	6996	184089
10	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0
11	Odisha	0	147138	147138
12	Punjab	0	0	0
13	Rajasthan	195571	0	195571
14	Tamil Nadu	0	13231	13231
15	Uttar Pradesh	21989	0	21989
16	West Bengal	0	441272	441272
	Total	1710673	1246136	2956809
Total area in million ha.		1.71	1.25	2.96
