

O.I.H.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1785
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH MARCH, 2018

BARREN AND UNUTILISED LAND

1785. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE $\pm\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\text{S}}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\text{O}}\ddot{\alpha}$ एवं किसान कल्याण $\frac{1}{2}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}$ be pleased to state:

- (a) the area of agricultural land in hectares lying unused or barren in the country;
- (b) whether the shortage of water has also been a factor on account of which farmers are unable to sow their farms; and
- (c) if so, whether the Government proposes to promote solar farming in such areas?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

$\pm\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\text{S}}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\text{O}}\ddot{\alpha}$ एवं किसान कल्याण $\frac{1}{2}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}$ $\frac{1}{2}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}$ $\frac{1}{2}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}\ddot{\alpha}$ (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) & (b): As per report on Land Use Statistics for 2014-15 (latest available), the agricultural land consists of (i) net area sown, (ii) current fallow land (iii) fallow land other than current fallow land (iv) culturable wasteland (v) Land Under misc. Tree, Crops and groves not included in net area sown. The details of area under agricultural land and agricultural land in hectares lying unused (culturable waste land and Fallow land other than current fallow) or barren is given as under:

(hectares)

(a) Agricultural land	181886066
Net area sown	140130018
Current fallow land	15090813
Fallow land other than current fallow land	11091648
Culturable wasteland	12469480
Land Under misc. Tree, Crops and groves not included in net area sown	3104107
(b) Area under agricultural land lying unused (culturable waste land and Fallow land other than current fallow) or barren	23561128

The area of agricultural land lying unused or barren may be either fallow or covered with shrubs and jungles, which are not put to any use for some reason or other which may include shortage of water.

(c): Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) under its Off-grid and Decentralized Solar PV Applications Programme provides financial support to the farmers throughout the country for installation of Solar Water Pumping Systems. Central Financial Assistance (CFA) of up to 30% of the benchmark cost of the system is provided under the Programme, which is being implemented through Nodal Agencies of MNRE in the States. Solar water pumping systems are sanctioned by the Ministry based on demand aggregated by the State Nodal Agencies.
