

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1432**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019

**LAND UNDER FARMING IN BACKWARD AREAS**

1432. SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:

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

- (a) the total area of arable land under farming in the country especially in the Buldhana Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra and other backward areas;
- (b) the details thereof;
- (c) the total area of land that can be brought under farming, State-wise;
- (d) the loss incurred due to non-farming on such land; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) & (b): As per the latest data available on land use statistics, arable / agricultural land in the country in 2014-15 was 181.88 million hectares. The district wise details of cultivable area of the state of Maharashtra, including the district of Buldhana, for the year 2014-15 is given at Annexure.

(c) to (e): As per Seventh Schedule of Constitution of India, land comes under the purview of State Government and, therefore, it is for the State Governments to take suitable steps to bring more area under farming. However, Government of India supplements the efforts of States, through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support.

In order to check decline in the cultivable land / arable land in the country, under the National Policy for Farmers – 2007 (NPF-2007), State Governments have been advised to earmark lands with low biological potential such as uncultivable land, land affected by salinity, acidity, etc., for non-agricultural development activities, including industrial and construction activities. National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy – 2007 (NRRP-2007) has also recommended that as far as possible, projects may be set up on waste land, degraded land or un-irrigated land and acquisition of irrigated, multi-cropped agricultural land for non-agricultural uses may be kept to the minimum and avoided, to the extent possible. Further, Ministry of Rural Development is implementing an Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) for development of rainfed/ degraded areas. The IWMP has been converted to the Watershed Component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) from the financial year 2015-16.

With a view to prevent soil erosion, land degradation and also to maintain balance in various types of land uses across the country, Government of India is implementing National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). Under this mission, all types of land including wasteland/barren land are developed with suitable need based soil and water conservation measures and parts of such degraded lands developed are put to agricultural practices, leading to net sown area remaining largely unchanged around 141 million hectares in the last two decades.

**Annexure****Annexure referred in part (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 1432  
due for reply on 12/02/19**

District-wise details of Agricultural Land in Maharashtra in 2014-15 (latest available)

(Area in '00' ha)

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Cultivable / Arable/ Agricultural Land</b>
1	Mumbai Sub	–
2	Thane	3247
3	Raigad	3095
4	Ratnagiri	5555
5	Sindhudurg	3486
6	Nasik	10129
7	Dhule	4542
8	Nandurbar	3055
9	Jalgaon	8727
10	Ahmadnagar	13527
11	Pune	10285
12	Solapur	13239
13	Satara	6820
14	Sangli	7158
15	Kolhapur	5062
16	Aurangabad	8201
17	Jalna	7155
18	Beed	9439
19	Latur	6494
20	Osmanabad	6978
21	Nanded	8301
22	Parbhani	5747
23	Hingoli	3975
24	Buldhana	7361
25	Akola	4522
26	Washim	4071
27	Amravati	8141
28	Yavatmal	9527
29	Wardha	4733
30	Nagpur	6386
31	Bhandara	2025
32	Gondia	2153
33	Chandrapur	5317
34	Gadchiroli	2541
<b>Maharashtra State</b>		<b>210994</b>

Source: Agriculture Department, Government of Maharashtra

\*\*\*\*\*