

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2276

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20TH DECEMBER, 2022

DECREASING OF AGRICULTURE LAND

2276. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA

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

- (a) whether the area of agricultural land in the country is continuously declining;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the reasons of decreasing cultivable land during the last three year, State-wise; and
- (d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to preserve the agricultural land in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a) to (d) As per report on Land Use Statistics for 2018-19 (latest available), the details of agricultural land/ cultivable land in the country since 2013-14 are given at **Annexure-I**. The State / UT-wise details of agricultural land/ cultivable land from the year 2016-17 to 2018-19 (latest available) are given at **Annexure-II**.

As per Seventh Schedule of Constitution of India, land comes under the purview of State Governments. Therefore State government are to take suitable steps to check diversion of arable land for non agricultural purposes. However, Government of India supplements the efforts of States, through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support. 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 developmental activities, including industrial and

construction activities. The 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. Acquisition of irrigated, multi-cropped agricultural land for non-agricultural uses may be kept to the minimum or avoided, to the extent possible.

Further, Government has taken several steps to preserve agricultural land. These include:

- i) Per Drop More Crop- This scheme mainly focuses on water use efficiency at farm level through Micro Irrigation (Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation System). Under the PDMC 70.04 lakh hectare area is covered under Micro Irrigation.
- ii) Watershed Development Component: The Watershed Management Division of Department of Land Resources (DoLR) implements a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana for development of rainfed/degraded lands in the country. As per the information received from the States /UTs, under WDC-PMKSY 1.0, about 6.56 lakh water harvesting structures have been created / rejuvenated, an additional area of about 14.54 lakh hectare has been brought under protective irrigation, and about 31.94 lakh farmers have been benefited from 2015-16 to 2021-22.
- iii) Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP): Major and Medium Irrigation projects including National projects are being implemented by the Department of Water Resources River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD&GR). Under AIBP during 2016-17, ninety-nine (99) on-going Major/Medium irrigation projects (7 phases), in the country having balance estimated cost of Rs.77,595 cr. (Central Assistance-Rs.31342.50 crore and State Share-Rs.46253 crore) were prioritised in consultation with States for completion in phases. Out of these projects, AIBP works of 50 prioritized projects have been reported to be completed.
- iv) National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA): NMSA is one of the Missions within the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) which aims to evolve and implement strategies to make Indian agriculture more resilient to the changing climate and to sustain increase in production.
- v) Soil Health Card (SHC): Government is implementing Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme since 2015 to provide soil test based fertilizer use recommendations periodically to the farmers in the country. Soil health card provides nutrient status of the soil along with prescription about balanced and integrated use of inorganic and organic fertilizers to maintain good soil health that results in increase in production. Soil health Cards/Soil Health Management Scheme is being implemented for which an expenditure of Rs. 1335.68 crore has been incurred so far for various activities for improving soil health and its fertility. Till now 22.71 crore grid based soil health cards have been distributed to farmers under the scheme.
- vi) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY): RKVY scheme was initiated in 2007 as an umbrella scheme for ensuring holistic development of agriculture and allied sectors

by allowing states to choose their own agriculture and allied sector development activities as per the district/state agriculture plan. The Scheme has been revamped as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana - Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) for implementation from 2017-18.

Annexure I**Annexure referred in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Un-Starred Q. No. 2276 due for answer on 20/12/2022**

Details of Agricultural /Cultivable Land in the country from 2013-14 to 2018-19 (latest available)

(in thousand Hectare)

Year	Agricultural land
2013-14	1,81,849
2014-15	1,81,829
2015-16	1,81,603
2016-17	1,81,133
2017-18	1,81,064
2018-19	1,80,888

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare

**Annexure referred in reply to part (c) of Lok Sabha Un-Starred Q. No. 2276 due for
answer on 20/12/2022**

State / UT-wise Details of Agricultural Land in the country from 2016-17 to 2018-19
(latest available)

(in Thousand Hectare)

State /UTs	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
ANDHRA PRADESH	9003	8999	8997
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	423	424	424
ASSAM	3337	3302	3305
BIHAR	6572	6573	6573
CHHATTISGARH	5558	5562	5570
GOA	197	197	197
GUJARAT	12661	12661	12661
HARYANA	3744	3759	3817
HIMACHAL PRADESH	813	816	816
JAMMU & KASHMIR	1078	1081	1091
JHARKHAND	4367	4323	4319
KARNATAKA	12784	12777	12830
KERALA	2247	2246	2235
MADHYA PRADESH	17231	17207	17121
MAHARASHTRA	20748	20751	20719
MANIPUR	476	453	448
MEGHALAYA	1015	1013	1011
MIZORAM	367	367	367
NAGALAND	694	694	678
ODISHA	6690	6745	6675
PUNJAB	4237	4235	4233
RAJASTHAN	25496	25493	25484
SIKKIM	97	97	97
TAMIL NADU	8110	8110	8109
TELANGANA	6752	6770	6767
TRIPURA	271	271	270
UTTARAKHAND	1546	1550	1548
UTTAR PRADESH	18848	18826	18775
WEST BENGAL	5633	5625	5615
A&N ISLAND	28	28	28
CHANDIGARH	1	1	1
D & N HAVELI	24	24	20
DAMAN & DIU	3	3	3
DELHI	53	53	53
LAKSHADWEEP	2	2	3
PUDUCHERRY	29	29	28
ALL INDIA	1,81,133	1,81,064	1,80,888

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare