

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2474
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 9th MARCH, 2021

AREA OF BARREN LAND

2474. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:

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

- (a) the area of barren land in hectares in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has any action plan to convert barren land into arable land in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): As per the Land use Statistics for the year 2016-17 (latest available), State-wise / UT-wise area of barren and unculturable land in the country is given at **annexure**.

(b) & (c): Yes sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed location specific bio-engineering soil & water conservation measure, land management techniques, soil reclamation measures for saline, alkali, waterlogged and acid soils, selection of suitable crop including agroforestry interventions to reclaim and develop barren lands. While Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation (IISWC) has developed several location specific bio-engineering measures to check soil erosion due to run-off of rain water, Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur has developed sand dune stabilization and shelter belt technology to check wind erosion. The Council through Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal and All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Salt Affected Soils has developed reclamation technology, sub-surface drainage, bio-drainage, agroforestry interventions and salt tolerant crop varieties to improve the productivity of saline, sodic and waterlogged soils in the country. The ICAR also imparts training, organises Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs), etc. to educate farmers on all these aspects.

Further, Department of Land Resources (DoLR) implements Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY) for development of rainfed/degraded lands. DoLR has sanctioned, 8214 watershed

development projects covering an area of about 39.07 million hectare in 28 States (except Goa) (now 27 States and UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh) during the period 2009-10 to 2014-15 under erstwhile Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP). IWMP was amalgamated as the Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana in 2015-16.

Annexure

Annexure referred in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 2474 due for answer on 9.3.2021

State-wise / UT-wise area of barren and unculturable land for the year 2016-17

Sr. No.	STATES / UTs	Area of barren & unculturable land (in hectare)
1.	ANDHRA PRADESH	1345882
2.	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	37369
3.	ASSAM	1191251
4.	BIHAR	431715
5.	CHHATTISGARH	292655
6.	GOA	
7.	GUJARAT	2551500
8.	HARYANA	127923
9.	HIMACHAL PRADESH	778998
10.	JAMMU & KASHMIR	303691
11.	JHARKHAND	583322
12.	KARNATAKA	793013
13.	KERALA	11780
14.	MADHYA PRADESH	1343518
15.	MAHARASHTRA	1822100
16.	MANIPUR	940
17.	MEGHALAYA	128866
18.	MIZORAM	6301
19.	NAGALAND	2496
20.	ODISHA	1031000
21.	PUNJAB	42658
22.	RAJASTHAN	2391015
23.	SIKKIM	
24.	TAMIL NADU	457671
25.	TELANGANA	607457
26.	TRIPURA	
27.	UTTARAKHAND	228091
28.	UTTAR PRADESH	444864
29.	WEST BENGAL	9606
30.	A&N ISLAND	1639
31.	CHANDIGARH	
32.	D & N HAVELI	84
33.	DAMAN & DIU	
34.	DELHI	17708
35.	LAKSHADWEEP	
36.	PUDUCHERRY	125
	ALL INDIA	16985238

Source: DES Ministry of Agriculture & FW

Blank space denotes not available or no reporting of data from the States/UTs
