

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 239*
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH DECEMBER 2021

RECORD OF USELESS/BARREN LAND

+*239. SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:

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

- (a) whether the Government does not have any record of barren lands/useless lands for agricultural works/farming due to soil erosion;
- (b) the reaction of the Government thereto including the reasons for the absence of record;
- (c) the manner in which strategy is prepared by studying the impact of soil conservation on the land in the absence of the said information; and
- (d) the details of action taken to make the land rendered useless/barren due to soil erosion into cultivable land during the last three years, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 239* TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH DECEMBER, 2021 REGARDING 'RECORD OF USELESS/BARREN LAND'.

(a) & (b): As per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, 'land' comes under the purview of State Governments. However, a periodic assessment studies to take stock of wastelands in the country are commissioned by the Department of Land Resources. The latest study, namely "Wastelands Atlas of India (Change Analysis Based on Temporal Satellite Data of 2008-09 and 2015-16)" was undertaken by National Remote Sensing Center, Hyderabad.

As per the publication "Wastelands Atlas of India 2019", the total area under wastelands is 55.77 million hectare in 2015-16 including mapping of about 12.08 million hectares hitherto un-mapped area of Jammu & Kashmir.

(c) & (d): The Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) was launched in 2015-16 with an aim to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve on farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices etc. The components of PMKSY are as under:

(a) Accelerated Irrigation Benefit 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).

(b) PMKSY-Har Khet KoPani (HKKP): Source Augmentation, distribution, ground water development, lift irrigation, diversion of water from water plenty to water scarce areas, repair, restoration, renovation of traditional water bodies are being implemented by DoWR, RD & GR under PMKSY-HKKP.

(c) PMKSY-Per Drop More Crop (PDMC): Focuses on enhancing water use efficiency at farm level through Micro Irrigation viz. Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation System being implemented by DA&FW. is operational from 2015-16 in the Country including Haryana. The PMKSY-Per Drop More Crop mainly focuses on water use efficiency at farm level through Micro Irrigation. Besides promoting precision irrigation (Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation System) and better on-farm water management practices to optimize the use of available water resources, this component also supports micro level water storage or water conservation/management activities to supplement Micro Irrigation.

(d) PMKSY-Watershed Development Component: The Department of Land Resources has been implementing Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY) erstwhile Integrated Watershed Management Programme for development of rainfed/ degraded areas. The activities being undertaken through the watershed development projects inter alia include ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rain water harvesting, nursery raising, afforestation, horticulture, pasture development, livelihoods for asset less persons, etc. The State / UT-wise details of water harvesting structures (WHS) created / rejuvenated, additional area brought under protective irrigation, farmers benefitted, area brought under plantation (Horticulture / Afforestation), area of culturable wasteland treated in completed projects and employment generated are given at **Annexure**.

Further, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed several location specific bio-engineering measures to check soil erosion due to run-off of rain water, sand dune stabilization and shelter belt technology to check wind erosion. The ICAR also imparts training, organises Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) etc. to educate farmers on all these aspects.

Annexure referred in reply to part (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Q. No. 239 due for 14.12.2021

State-wise details of Water Harvesting Structures (WHS) created/rejuvenated, Additional area brought under irrigation, farmers benefitted, Area brought under plantation (Horti. Afforestation), Area of culturable wasteland treated in completed project and Employment generated under WDC-PMKSY during 2018-19 to 2020-21

| Sr. No. | State / UT | WHS created / Rejuvenated (in Nos.) | Additional area brought under irrigation (Ha) | Farmers benefitted (in Nos.) | Area brought under plantation (Horti. Afforestation) in Ha | Area of culturable wasteland treated in completed project (in Ha) | Employment generated (No. of mandays) |
|---------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 21285 | 73128.00 | 93561 | 655.00 | 9829.00 | 931654 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 199 | 4543.00 | 5198 | 5272.00 | 35.00 | 10645 |
| 3 | Assam | 3288 | 55703.21 | 134340 | 1861.57 | 10087.66 | 2634242 |
| 4 | Bihar | 3320 | 8618.98 | 31166 | 145.50 | 3539.66 | 382770 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 3909 | 12600.13 | 28167 | 948.67 | 1028.53 | 1847455 |
| 6 | Gujarat | 30723 | 9286.85 | 50313 | 9917.75 | 5821.02 | 108305 |
| 7 | Haryana | 1118 | 10294.00 | 5243 | 375.00 | 0.00 | 51032 |
| 8 | Himachal Pradesh | 2284 | 1466.29 | 16695 | 611.27 | 0.00 | 589298 |
| 9 | Jharkhand | 1395 | 1987.00 | 71489 | 4.00 | 24490.40 | 531960 |
| 10 | Karnataka | 6011 | 21934.00 | 50697 | 52929.00 | 12119.00 | 5956088 |
| 11 | Kerala | 17322 | 9939.71 | 97594 | 1032.15 | 425.64 | 496487 |
| 12 | Madhya Pradesh | 15273 | 70705.33 | 80965 | 25.70 | 6453.74 | 7371562 |
| 13 | Maharashtra | 5802 | 49502.18 | 91643 | 1786.66 | 10466.40 | 265050 |
| 14 | Manipur | 2872 | 616.59 | 26590 | 1841.49 | 11681.20 | 447495 |
| 15 | Meghalaya | 518 | 350.41 | 8738 | 3098.97 | 2.24 | 270760 |
| 16 | Mizoram | 3597 | 4455.83 | 12618 | 3034.68 | 1759.22 | 18463 |
| 17 | Nagaland | 1614 | 2694.50 | 9224 | 43178.65 | 4665.59 | 725805 |
| 18 | Odisha | 7751 | 19098.64 | 46179 | 528.90 | 8339.65 | 1807145 |
| 19 | Punjab | 412 | 553.00 | 4643 | 0.00 | 4278.00 | 124009 |
| 20 | Rajasthan | 70372 | 53288.00 | 212900 | 2994.00 | 131199.00 | 1879245 |
| 21 | Sikkim | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 123.00 | 0.00 | 13524 |
| 22 | Tamil Nadu | 12174 | 64159.47 | 76188 | 12958.57 | 30744.19 | 3397556 |
| 23 | Telangana | 9136 | 31603.00 | 39787 | 0.00 | 4479.00 | 107533 |
| 24 | Tripura | 1653 | 811.49 | 6048 | 1233.80 | 2380.06 | 664339 |
| 25 | Uttar Pradesh | 4959 | 27735.00 | 174005 | 940.68 | 25732.00 | 1085829 |
| 26 | Uttarakhand | 477 | 141.61 | 3061 | 56.34 | 0.00 | 248221 |
| 27 | West Bengal | 7453 | 12371.00 | 70573 | 2890.00 | 10762.00 | 2323107 |
| 28 | UT of J& K ^ | 5775 | 12422.89 | 44294 | 25.00 | 1157.04 | 593670 |
| 29 | UT of Ladakh | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| | Total | 240692 | 560010.11 | 1491919 | 148468.35 | 321475.24 | 34883249 |

Note: Provisional and subject to change (As per information received from States)

^ including erstwhile State of J&K upto 2020-21
