

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4183**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2022

**SHRINKING OF AGRICULTURAL LAND**

4183. MS CHANDRANI MURMU:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that agricultural land has shrunk in Keonjhar HPC because of increased activity in mining;
- (b) if so, the total area of agricultural land lost to mining during the last fifteen years;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to compensate the lost agricultural land to the farmers;
- (d) whether the Government has decided to allocate no agricultural land for mining activities; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): As per the Land Use Statistics, the details of agricultural land/ cultivable land of Keonjhar District of Odisha during the last 15 years (from 2006-07 to 2020-21) are given in the **Annexure**.

(c) to (e): There is no significant decline in the agricultural land in the Keonjhar District of Odisha during the last 15 years. However, marginal decline of agricultural land may be due to diversion of land for non-agricultural purposes such as urbanization, roads, industries, housing etc. While there is shift in agricultural land for non agricultural purposes, non-agricultural land is also being brought under agricultural uses.

As per Seventh Schedule of Constitution of India, land comes under the purview of State Government. Therefore, the State Governments are to take suitable steps to check diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes. However, 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. 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 and avoided, to the extent possible.

**Annexure**

**Annexure referred in reply to part (a) and (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 4183 due for answer on 29/03/2021**

Details of Agricultural land of Keonjhar District of Odisha from 2006-07 to 2020-21

<b>Year</b>	<b>Agricultural Land (in hectare)</b>
2006-07	330000
2007-08	330000
2008-09	330000
2009-10	356000
2010-11	359000
2011-12	338239
2012-13	352206
2013-14	329597
2014-15	333000
2015-16	325557
2016-17	338447
2017-18	359840
2018-19	321684
2019-20	352365
2020-21	331180

Note: Agricultural Land consists of net area sown, current fallows, fallow lands other than current fallows, culturable waste land and land under miscellaneous tree crops.

Source: Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers welfare

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