

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6522  
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2005  
EFFORT TO MAKE FERTILE LAND IN GUJARAT  
Chavda Shri Harisinh Pratapsinh;Patel Shri Jivabhai Ambalal

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government of Gujarat has made any efforts to convert the infertile land into fertile;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has consulted FCI, Arravali Gypsum and Minerals India Limited in this regard;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

- (a) to (c): The State Government of Gujarat is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Programme for Reclamation of Alkali Soils from the year 1995-96, to reclaim alkali soils to make them fertile. The programme is being implemented covering five districts of Gujarat namely, Vadodara, Kheda, Ahmedabad, Patan and Mehsana. Under this programme, 12490 hectares of infertile land has already been brought under cultivation so far.
- (d): No, Sir.
- (e): Does not arise.
- (f): For reclamation of alkali soils, gypsum is used as soil amendment which is procured from Gujarat State Fertilizer Company, Baroda – a State Government enterprise.