

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1391  
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2009  
AGRICULTURAL LAND HOLDINGS  
Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarya Swamy

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

- (a) whether the average holding of agricultural land has come down drastically in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is a need for comprehensive improvement in the present technique used in agriculture in order to make the said holdings remunerative; and
- (d) if so, the details of the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): As per Agriculture Census, the average size of agricultural land holding in the country has decreased from 1.41 hectare in 1995-96 to 1.33 hectare in 2000-01.

(c) & (d): In order to make small / average land holdings more remunerative several location specific and cost effective techniques have been developed like water harvesting, micro irrigation, in situ water conservation, vermi-composting, bio-fertilizers, bio-pesticides and simple farm tools and implements. These are demonstrated and propagated through various schemes / programmes such as National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Promotion and Strengthening of Agricultural Mechanization through Training, Testing and Demonstration etc. Government is also promoting land consolidation, contract farming, Farmers' Group / Cooperative formation to make small land holders more effective in marketing of their produce.