

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3053  
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2010  
AGRICULTURAL LAND  
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) the details of agriculture land in the country on which farming activities are not being undertaken for the last five years or more;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to develop barren and waste land for farming purpose;
- (c) the details of the area of agriculture land in hectares developed in the country during each of the last three years, Statewise; and
- (d) the amount sanctioned and utilized by the Government for development of the barren land during the said period, Statewise?

**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): The agriculture lands on which farming activities are not being undertaken for the last five years or more, as per our terminology is known as culturable wastelands, the details of which are at Annexure-I.
- (b): The barren lands include mountains, deserts, etc. can be brought under cultivation only at an exorbitant cost and, is therefore, not economical. Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), therefore, does not promote any comprehensive scheme/programme to develop barren lands. Some extent of wasteland, however, is covered under Watershed Development Programmes of MoA.
- (c): The details are at Annexure II.
- (d): In view of (b) above, this question does not arise.