

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:9  
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2010  
AREA UNDER CROP PRODUCTION  
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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of the cultivable area under various crops in the country including sugarcane and pulses during each of the last three years and the current year, cropwise and State-wise;
- (b) whether a decrease has been recorded in the cultivable area of various crops including sugarcane and pulses;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any steps to increase area under cultivation during the kharif season; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated increase in production of various crops including pulses in the ensuing harvest season?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.9 DUE FOR REPLY ON 23-02-2010.

(a) to (c): The details of State-wise area under food grains, pulses, sugarcane and oilseeds during 2006-07 to 2009-10 is at Annexure. There are several factors that determine the cultivated area under various crops, including sugarcane and pulses, such as farmers' preference, demand for the commodity, alternate economic opportunities etc.

(d) & (e): The deficit South-West Monsoon in 2009 affected agriculture operations particularly during Kharif 2009. In order to address this, the Government adopted a multi/pronged strategy with the involvement of all concerned Central Ministries/Departments and State Governments. Some of the measures adopted were increased subsidy on seeds; advisories to drought affected states w.r.t. alternate crops; encouraging early sowing of Rabi; ensuring availability of fertilizers; enhanced credit availability; allocation of additional power; assistance for diesel subsidy; fast tract release of funds under various schemes, namely, National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice/Wheat/ Coarse Cereals (excluding maize), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). As a result, the drought, although no less severe than the drought in 2002-03, has led to, by comparison, smaller fall in food grains production and in agricultural GDP.

Also, the estimate of foodgrain production in Rabi 2009-10 at 117 million tonnes is higher than the 109.92 million tonnes in Rabi 2008-09, based on 2nd Advanced Estimates, with an estimated increase of about 1.10 million tonnes in pulses.