

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5188
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2010
BARREN LAND
Choudhary Shri Harish

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government in Rajasthan to identify total area of barren land in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total area of land identified as barren in the aforesaid survey and its percentage against the total land;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any steps to improve the soil quality of such land and to make it cultivable; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

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): Yes, Madam. Government of India has assessed district-wise land use statistics of the States. As per available data during 2007-08, an area of 24.18 lakh hectare is estimated to be under the category of barren and unculturable lands in the State of Rajasthan, District wise details are annexed.

(c): As per the assessment 24.18 lakh hectare area falls under the category of barren and unculturable lands in Rajasthan, which constitutes 7.06% of the total geographical area of the State.

(d)&(e): All lands covered by mountains, deserts etc. are categorized as barren & unculturable lands and can be brought under cultivation only at an exorbitant cost. Government of India, therefore, does not promote any comprehensive scheme/programme for the development of barren & unculturable lands.