

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3508  
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2010  
CEILING ON LAND HOLDINGS  
Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the status of ceiling surplus land in the country;
- (b) whether the Government is planning to revamp the schemes related to ceiling on land holdings;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, reasons therefore?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI)

(a): As per information received from the States/UTs on implementation of the land ceiling laws, as on 31.12.2009 an area of 69.92 lakh acres has been declared surplus, of which 61.40 lakh acres has been taken possession of, and 50.03 lakh acres has been distributed to 56.48 lakh beneficiaries.

(b) to (d): Land and its management falls within the exclusive legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the respective States as provided under Entry No. 18 of List – II (State list) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. The role of the Central Government in the field of Land Reforms is only of an advisory and Coordinating nature. The subject matter has, however, been considered at the highest level. In order to get comprehensive recommendations on the matter, the following two high level bodies were constituted.

i) A "Committee on State Agrarian Relations and the unfinished Task in Land Reforms" was constituted under the Chairmanship of Minister of Rural Development.

ii) A "National Council for Land Reforms" Constituted under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister.

The composition, terms of reference, etc. of the Committee and the Council were notified in the Official Gazette on 9th January, 2008. The Committee has since submitted its Report. The Report of the Committee is being examined by the Committee of Secretaries (CoS) before it is placed before the 'National Council for Land Reforms' constituted under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister for its consideration and directions.