

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:135

ANSWERED ON:03.08.2010

DRY LAND FARMING

Viswanathan Shri P.;Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao

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

(a) whether large parts of the country practice dry land farming;

(b) if so, the details of the area under such farming, crops produced and production during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether technologies/methods for appropriate treatment of land for conservation of moisture exists in the country to boost dry land farming;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the International Crops Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) to boost production in rainfed/dry land areas?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY 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. 135 DUE FOR REPLY ON 3RD AUGUST, 2010.

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): The State wise rainfed area for the years 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 are given at Annexure – I. As per available data (2007-08), major dryland crops and their percentage of coverage under rainfed conditions are: rice (43%), jowar (91%), bajra (90%), maize (76%), chick pea (65%), pigeon pea (96%), groundnut (79%) and soybean (99%). Details of area and production of some of these crops for the years 2006-07 to 2008-09 are given at Annexure-II (A to C).

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. Details of technologies developed by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) are at Annexure – III.

(e): International Crops Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) is working for enhancing agricultural productivity of rainfed agriculture. It is advocating use of integrated genetic and natural resource management (IGNRM) approach for bridging the yield gap between the current and potential achievable yields of rainfed crops in different agro-eco regions. The details of the steps taken by ICRISAT for increasing production of rainfed crops are given at Annexure – IV.