

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1572

ANSWERED ON:03.08.2010

LAND FOR CULTIVATION OF FOODGRAINS

Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Patil Shri Sanjay Dina ;Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to encourage Indian companies to buy lands in other countries for producing pulses, oilseeds and other foodgrains to meet the domestic consumption requirements;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any suggestions in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (e): Government's priority is to concentrate on development of agriculture within the country and ensure that there is adequate production of foodgrains to meet the demand.

There are, however, reports of Indian firms entering into arrangements for lease of land for commercial agriculture purposes in some African countries which may include exports to third countries including India. Details of these arrangements are not available.

Industries and farmers association have generally expressed an interest in these acquisition wherever feasible and are generally supported by liberalized policy of Government for overseas investments.