

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3354
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2010
AREA UNDER SUNFLOWER
Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the sown area under sunflower has gone down;
- (b) if so, the details and the percentage thereof; and
- (c) the measures taken to improve the sown area of sunflower and lowering of imports?

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. The area coverage under sunflower has declined from 21.65 lakh hectares during 2006-07 to 14.83 lakh hectares during 2009-10 (4th advance estimates), registering a decline of 31.50% in the last three years.

(c): To increase the production of oilseeds including sunflower in the country, Government of India is implementing an Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) in 14 major oilseeds growing States. Government of India is also providing assistance for increasing production by encouraging cultivation of oilseeds under other Crop Development Scheme such as Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). Besides, a new sub-scheme has been introduced under RKVY during 2010-11 as a special initiative for pulses and oilseeds for organizing 60,000 pulses and oilseeds villages in rainfed areas. Increasing production and productivity of oilseeds including sunflower would enhance its availability and lower dependence on imports.