

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:250
ANSWERED ON:03.07.2009
OPIUM GROWERS IN RAJASTHAN
Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pattas of opium growers in Rajasthan have been reduced ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE(SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) Yes sir.

(b) The number of opium growers has reduced in all the three opium growing States, including Rajasthan. The details for the last three years are given below:

State No. of opium growers licenced

2006-07 2007-08 2008-09

Madhya Pradesh 34,151 28,286 27,462

Rajasthan 28,233 18,439 17,337

Uttar Pradesh 274 50 22

Total 62,658 46,775 44,821

Farmers who do not tender the minimum qualifying yield (MQY) or who do not fulfill other conditions laid down in the General Licencing Conditions for the crop year are not issued licences every year.As a result, there is a decline in the number of opium growers.