

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:76

ANSWERED ON:22.02.2011

DRY LAND FARMING

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

- (a) the total and percentage share of dry land and rain fed areas in the net sown area of the country; and
- (b) the details of efforts made for agricultural development in the said areas of the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI ARUN YADAV)

(a): Nearly 56% of the net sown area out of 140.86 million hectare in the country are dryland and rainfed areas.

(b): For the promotion of rainfed/dryland farming, various watershed programmes are being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Rural Development through an integrated watershed management approach. Special emphasis on rainfed/ dryland areas are accorded in all major programmes of the Ministry of Agriculture. The details of the programmes are:

(A) Watershed Programme

i. Ministry of Agriculture

1. National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA)
2. Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP&FPR)
3. Watershed Development Project for Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA)

ii Ministry of Rural Development

Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP)

(B) Other Major Programmes

1. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)
2. Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA)
3. National Food Security Mission (NFSM)
4. National Horticulture Mission (NHM)
5. Micro Irrigation (MI)
6. Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM)

Research Projects on dryland agriculture are also being implemented by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) under the All Indian Coordinated Research Project on Dryland Agriculture (AICRPDA).