

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1220
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2011
PER CAPITA AVAILABILITY OF LAND
Nagar Shri Surendra Singh

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is steep decline in the availability of per capita land in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any official survey has been conducted or proposed to be conducted to ascertain the reasons for decline in the per capita availability of land;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI)

(a) to (f): As per various quinquennial Agriculture Censuses conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture in 1970-71, 1976-77, 1980-81, 1985-86, 1990-91, 1995-96, 2000-01 and 2005-06, the average size of operational holdings in the country was 2.28, 2.00, 1.84, 1.69, 1.55, 1.41, 1.33 and 1.23 hectares respectively, which shows that the average size of the operational holding declined by about 46% in 2005-06 over 1970-71. The decline in the operated area has been attributed to conversion of land for urbanization/industrialization or transfer of land to meet the requirement of non- agricultural purposes.