

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2257  
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2009  
DECREASE IN CROP AREA  
Chauhan Shri Sanjay Singh

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

- (a) whether as per assessment made by the Government the total area which is to be covered for the sowing of crops is likely to decrease in the ensuing Kharif season;
- (b) if so, the total area under sowing for Kharif crop in terms of percentage and hectares likely to register a decrease due to the delay caused in the arrival of monsoon;
- (c) whether such affected States are being identified; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): According to preliminary reports received from State Governments, the area sown during the current Kharif season so far is 480.32 lakh hectares as compared to the 524.84 lakh hectares during the corresponding period of last year. However, only about 46% of normal area under Kharif crops has been sown so far and, as of now, the major States reporting shortfall in area coverage are Bihar, Chattishgarh, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. With the revival of monsoon in the last week of June, 2009, the sowing operations in major crop growing States have picked up and no significant shift in area coverage under Kharif crops is expected.