

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3352
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2009
ARABLE AND NON- ARABLE LAND
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the area of arable and non-arable land in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the area of land in hectares on which single and multiple crops are grown, separately, State-wise;
- (c) the proposals for utilisation of non-arable land; and
- (d) the follow up action taken thereon?

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): In the country, Cultivable Land, which consists of net area sown, fallow land, culturable waste land and land under miscellaneous tree crops, was 182708 thousand hectares in 2006-07. Un-cultivable Land, which is calculated by subtracting Cultivable Land from Total Reporting Area, was 122799 thousand hectares in 2006-07. A statement on State-wise cultivable land and un-cultivable land in 2006-07 (Provisional) is annexed.

(b): State-wise Net Area Sown and Total Cropped Area in 2006-07 (Provisional) is given in the annexed statement.

(c) & (d): The Union Government has set up a National Rainfed Area Authority as an advisory, policy making and monitoring body to provide knowledge inputs regarding systematic up-gradation and management of country's dryland and rainfed agriculture. Programmes like National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas, Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded lands in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone River, Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas, Reclamation and Development of Alkali & Acid Soils and other externally aided projects are being implemented on watershed approach for development of rainfed and degraded land including arid and barren land through soil and water moisture conservation measures.

The Department of Land Resources is implementing three Centrally Sponsored area development programmes namely Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) on watershed basis. One of the main objectives of these programmes is conservation and development of natural resources i.e. land, water and vegetative cover. During the last five years, a total of 5487 projects covering an area of 2.92 million hectares under DPAP, 392 projects covering an area 0.196 million hectares under DDP and 452 projects covering an area of 2.26 million hectares under IWDP have been sanctioned.