

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2461
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2011
FARM ACTIVITIES ON LAND
Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to identify the agriculture land where farm activity has not been carried out for one or more years;
- (b) if so, the percentage of the said land in the country including Karnataka, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to utilize such land for afforestation or other purposes; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): So far, no specific survey is conducted by the Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Agriculture to identify the agriculture land where the farm activity has not been carried out for one or more years. However, as per the information furnished by the Ministry of Agriculture, it is informed that in the process of conducting Agriculture Census, data is collected in respect of land use categories including Current Fallows, Fallow land other than Current Fallows, Culturable Wasteland and other uncultivated land excluding Fallow land categories of the operational land holders. These land use categories are defined at Annexure-I. As per the latest Agriculture Census (2005-06), State-wise estimated area under these categories of land, including Karnataka, are given at Annexure-II.

(c) & (d) : There is no specific scheme/programme or proposal for utilization of agriculture land where farm activity has not been carried out for one or more years for afforestation or other purposes. However, Department of Land Resources has been implementing area development programmes on watershed basis for development of rainfed/degraded areas. Afforestation is one of the activities undertaken under watershed programmes based on the needs of the people of the project area and suitability of the land.