

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1080

ANSWERED ON:20.03.2012

CROPS CULTIVATION

Jaiswal Dr. Sanjay ;Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

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

(a) whether the Government has developed/promotes resistant crops for cultivation in natural calamities prone areas and areas affected by adverse weather condition;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to promote shifting cultivation/ rotation of crops in the country in order to overcome the problem of less production and productivity in agriculture;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government also proposes to shift agro based industries from the cultivable land to overcome the problem of shortage of cultivable land; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. National Agricultural Research System (NARS) has developed crop varieties having tolerance/resistance against biotic stresses and abiotic stresses induced due to adverse weather conditions such as drought, heat, flood, water stagnation etc. These crop varieties are under cultivation in different agro- climatic conditions for mitigating the adverse impact of weather/climate.

(c) & (d): To augment productivity appropriate crop rotations like rice-wheat, rice- pulses, rice-oilseeds, pulses-wheat, pulses-maize, etc depending upon the suitability of soil and climate are promoted through various crop development programmes. Shifting cultivation is prevalent in North Eastern Hill States which is unsustainable and less productive. Alternate practice of settled farming is recommended for adoption which is environment friendly and sustainable.

(e) & (f): Most of the Agro based industries are established in those areas where concerned crops are grown abundantly and as such do not displace large area under cultivation. For increasing the cultivable area and cropping intensity, utilization of rice fallows and better land use through inter-cropping are also promoted. Land being the state subject, the State Governments have been advised to earmark lands with low biological potential such as uncultivable lands, land affected by salinity, acidity, etc, for non-agricultural development activities, including industrial and construction activities.