

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:965
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2012
AREA UNDER GROUNDNUT CULTIVATION
Azad Shri Kirti (Jha)

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the area under groundnut cultivation in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the area under groundnut production is shrinking in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to expand the area of groundnut cultivation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

- (a) State-wise details of area coverage under groundnut during 2011-12 (2nd advance estimates) are given in the Annexure.
- (b) & (c): As indicated in the following table, the area coverage under groundnut in the country has declined from 62.92 lakh hectares in 2007-08 to 51.92 lakh hectares in 2011-12 (2nd Advance Estimates):-

Year Area ('000Hectares)

2007-08	6292.0
2008-09	6164.9
2009-10	5477.5
2010-11	5856.1
2011-12#	5192.2

2nd Advance Estimates for 2011-12

Major reasons for decline in area coverage under groundnut in the recent years include weather aberrations, intermittent dry spells, drought like conditions in major groundnut producing states, the crop's 'susceptibility' to a number of pests and lack of marketing infrastructure and higher fluctuation in prices leading to uncertainty in economic returns.

(d): To encourage farmers to grow oilseeds crops including groundnut in the country, Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) in 14 major oilseeds growing States, 15 maize growing States and 9 oil palm growing States.

Under the scheme, incentives are given to States for implementation of Annual Action Plan under ISOPOM for Oilseeds and Maize Crops. The assistance is given to farmers on production of foundation & certified seeds and distribution of certified seeds of Groundnut @ Rs.1000/- per quintal and Rs,1200/- per quintal respectively. Under the scheme, a provision for supply of seed minikits has been made for varietal diversification free of cost to the farmers and the varieties of oilseeds including groundnut released during last 10 years are being distributed.