

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2611
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2012
DECLINE IN PER CAPITA LANDAVAILABILITY
Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Mandal Shri Mangani Lal

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the per capita land availability in the country has declined;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether any survey has been conducted/proposed to be conducted to determine the reasons for such decline;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) As per various quinquennial Agriculture Censuses conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture in 1970-71, 1976-77, 1980-81, 1985-86, 1990-91, 1995-96, 2000-01 and 2005-06, the average size of operational holdings in the country was 2.28, 2.00, 1.84, 1.69, 1.55, 1.41, 1.33 and 1.23 hectares respectively, which shows that the average size of the operational holding declined by about 46% in 2005-06 over 1970-71. The average size of land holdings State-wise is enclosed at Annexure. The decline in the area of operational holding has been attributed to conversion of land for urbanization/industrialization or transfer of land to meet the requirement of non-agricultural purposes.