

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6358
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2012
STUDY ON CROP CYCLE
Yadav Shri Madhusudan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding feasibility of crop cycle in view of different aspects of agriculture and meteorological base;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action plan to encourage the farmers to change crop cycle in order to arrest the decline in fertility of land due to continuous single crop cultivation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and State Agricultural Universities have recommended different intercropping systems for various agro climatic zones of the country under rainfed agro-ecosystem. The major recommendations are given in Annexure-I.

(c) The action plan to encourage the farmers to change crop cycle includes:-

- (i) Developing short duration crops so that in place of one or two crops in a year more crops are taken.
- (ii) Developing crop management practices for enhancing resource use efficiency and productivity of cropping systems in different agro-ecological zones.
- (iii) Identifying alternate cropping systems for efficient land use.
- (iv) Demonstrating the benefits of intercropping systems in controlling land degradation and building soil fertility.
- (v) Advocating of land use through integration of trees-crops-livestock for risk reduction and optimal use of resources and
- (vi) Creating awareness through farmers' fare and front line demonstrations on the advantages of intercropping systems in risk management.