

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:242
ANSWERED ON:28.08.2012
AGRICULTURAL LAND HOLDINGS
Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad ;Mitra Shri Somendra Nath

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been an increase in the fragmentation of cultivable / agricultural land in the country;
- (b) if so, the extent thereof during the last three years;
- (c) the per capita land holding of small, marginal and big farmers at present in the country;
- (d) whether the said fragmentation has had an impact on agricultural production in the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the corrective measures taken / proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 242 DUE FOR REPLY ON 28TH AUGUST, 2012.

(a) & (b): Information regarding average size of operational holdings is obtained through Agriculture Censuses conducted in the country at intervals of five years. According to the latest data available from Agriculture Census 2005-06, the average size of an operational holding is 1.23 hectare as compared to 1.33 hectare in the previous Agriculture Census 2000-01.

(c): The average size of operational holdings for different size classes as per the latest Agriculture Census 2005-06 is given below:-

Sr. No. Size classes of operational Average size of operational
holdings holding (Hectare)

1	Marginal (Below 1.00 ha.)	0.38
2	Small (1.00-2.00 ha.)	1.38
3	Semi Medium (2.00-4.00 ha.)	2.68
4	Medium (4.00-10.00 ha.)	5.74
5	Large (10.00 ha. and above)	17.08

6 Total holdings 1.23

(d) to (f): There is no evidence to suggest that fragmentation of agricultural land has adversely affected agricultural production in the country. As indicated below, the production of agricultural crops in the country has generally registered an increase in 2005-06 and 2011-12 as compared to 2000-01:-

(million tonnes)

Crop Production of Agricultural Crops during
2000-01, 2005-06 and 2011-12

2000-01 2005-06 2011-12

Food grains	196.81	208.60	257.44
Oilseeds	18.44	27.98	30.01
Cotton	9.52	18.50	35.20
Jute and Mesta	10.56	10.84	11.57

Sugarcane# 295.96 281.17 357.67

as per fourth advance estimate released by DES, Ministry of Agriculture.

\$ Million bales of 170 kgs. each. \$\$ Million bales of 180 kgs. each.

Production of Sugarcane has been fluctuating over years depending on its comparative profitability vis-à-vis other competing crops.

To increase production of agricultural crops on sustainable basis, Government has been implementing several crop development schemes / programmes, including National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM), etc.