

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2639
ANSWERED ON:28.08.2012
DRY LAND FARMING
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the area under dry land farming in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the production of crops under dry land farming during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and crop-wise;
- (c) the details of the measures taken by the Government for maintaining soil moisture level in dry land farming;
- (d) whether any external assistance has been provided by some international agencies; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, agency-wise?

Answer

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

(a): It is estimated that about 76.77 million ha of net sown area is cultivated under rainfed conditions. State-wise area under rainfed farming is given at Annexure-I.

(b): Separate estimates on production of crops under irrigated and rainfed conditions are not maintained in Ministry of Agriculture. However, as per available data (2008-09) major rainfed/dryland crops and their percentage of coverage under rainfed conditions are : rice (41%), Jowar (91%), bajra (91%), maize (75%), gram (66%), tur (95%), groundnut (79%) and soyabean (99%). Production of major rainfed crops with area coverage for the year 2008-09 to 2010-11 are given at Annexure-II (A to (C).

(c) to (e): Watershed programmes are instrumental for soil and moisture conservation in rainfed areas. Following watershed programmes are being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Rural Development:

Ministry of Agriculture

1. National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR).
2. Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP& FPR).

Ministry of Rural Development

1. Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP).

Besides above, watershed development projects with World Bank assistance are being implemented by Government of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.