

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4346
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2012
CONVERSION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND
Singh Shri Dhananjay

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of agriculture land which has been diverted to various non-agriculture purposes in recent past in rural areas, in the country including Uttar Pradesh, State- wise and the total area diverted therein;
- (b) the details of clearances required for conversion of agriculture land to non-agriculture land in rural areas;
- (c) whether there exists any Government policy to discourage diversion of agricultural land for non-agriculture purposes in rural areas;
- (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) & (b): Land and its management falls under the exclusive legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the States as provided in Entry No. 18 of List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. The acquisition of agriculture land for various projects is done by the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations. The data regarding total area of agriculture land diverted to various non-agriculture purposes in recent past in rural areas in the country including Uttar Pradesh State-wise is not maintained at the Central level.

(c) & (d): The Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development has formulated a revised National Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy (NRRP), 2007, which has been published in the Gazette of India on 31st October, 2007 and has been circulated to all the Government of India/Ministries/Departments and the various States/UTs for its implementation. The NRRP, 2007 provides for the basic minimum requirements that must be met by all projects leading to involuntary displacement of the people, while State Governments/Public Sector Undertaking or agencies and other requiring bodies may put in place greater benefits level than those prescribed. NRRP-2007 specifies that prior to initiating the acquisition of land for a project, the appropriate Government should inter-alia, take into consideration the alternatives that will minimize the displacement of people due to the acquisition of land for the project, minimize the total area of land to be acquired for the project and minimize the acquisition of agricultural land for non-agricultural use in the project.

(e): As per (c)&(d) above question does not arise.