

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1204
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013
DEPENDENCE OF AGRICULTURE ON MONSOON
Pandey Saroj

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether agriculture in the country is largely dependent on monsoon;
- (b) if so, the details of areas dependent on monsoon along with the number of farmers engaged in agriculture, State-wise; and
- (c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to minimise the impact of monsoon on agriculture?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) & (b): The net sown area in the country is about 140.02 million ha of which 63.25 mha area is covered under irrigation and the remaining 78.17 mha is rainfed. State wise distribution of rainfed areas is given at Annexure – I. State wise details of number of cultivators is given at Annexure-II.

(c): Government has accorded priority to holistic and sustainable development of rainfed areas. Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development are implementing watershed development programmes under which water harvesting structures are taken up to provide live saving irrigation to crops. All major development programmes of Ministry of Agriculture, viz., Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) etc., construction of farm ponds and other means of water harvesting are encouraged to provide protective irrigation to farm lands. Further, for effective utilization of available water resource, National Mission on Micro Irrigation is being implemented to minimize water requirement thereby extending availability of water over longer durations.