

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3540
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2013
UNCULTIVATED LAND
Punia Shri P.L.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the farmers in West Bengal have left 2.8 lakh hectares of land uncultivated due to hike in fertiliser prices and low expectation of procurement of crops;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether such cases have also been reported in various parts of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Government of West Bengal has informed that there is no such report of uncultivated land in the State. However, during rabi/summer season, area under rice has declined due to low discharge of water from irrigation projects. The farmers have switched over to other alternate crops like sesamum, maize, greengram, groundnut and summer vegetables, etc.

(c) & (d): As regards other parts of the country, marginal decline in coverage of area under various crops during 2012-13 has been reported in some of the States due to erratic rainfall and drought conditions.