

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:672  
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009  
USE OF FERTILISERS  
Rathod Shri Ramesh

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether deficient rainfall has any impact on the use of fertilisers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures being taken by the Government to assist the farmers in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (c): Deficient rainfall has an impact on fertilizer use, particularly in rainfed/dryland areas where scarcity of water poses high risk on fertilizer use. Interventions like efficient crop planning, rain water harvesting, soil and water conservation, use of compost/vermicompost etc. can help in minimizing the risk of crop failure, paving the way for greater fertilizer use in rainfed areas. The Government is providing assistance to the State Governments for watershed development programmes in the country under various schemes to assist the farmers.