

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3409

ANSWERED ON:17.03.2015

CULTIVATION OF CROPS IN RAINFED AREA .

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agricultural crops being cultivated in rainfed areas in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the production and productivity of crops in rainfed areas is low in comparison to other farming areas in the country, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of schemes/programmes under implementation to improve agricultural production and productivity in rainfed areas in the country along with the funds allocated and utilised for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) whether any area/clusters have been established under the Rainfed Area Development Programme (RADP) for holistic and sustainable development in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

(a): Crops like rice, coarse cereals (jowar, bajra, maize, ragi), pulses (gram, arhar), oilseeds (groundnut, soybean, sunflower, sesamum, linseed rapeseed & mustard) and commercial crops (cotton) are grown in rainfed areas of the country. About 75.50 million hectares of total net sown area (140.80 million hectares) is under rainfed condition (as per estimate of Directorate of Economics and Statistics, 2011-12). The details of states where crops are grown in rainfed areas are given in Annexure-I.

(b): The productivity of crops in rainfed areas is low due to less use of inputs like quality seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, farm machinery & implements and long dry spell at critical crop growth stages. Based on the study conducted by Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), the productivity of various crops in rainfed areas and irrigated areas in the country is given below.

Crop	Yield	
	(tonnes/ hectare)	
	Rainfed areas	Irrigated areas
Rice	1.03	2.90
Sorghum	0.65	1.98
Bajra	0.89	3.51
Maize	1.91	3.48
Chick pea	0.63	1.10
Pigeon pea	0.41	0.75
Groundnut	0.79	1.59
Rapeseed & Mustard	0.78	1.51
Cotton	0.20	0.54

(c): Government of India is implementing crop development programmes such as National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Rainfed Area Development Programme (RADP) a sub-scheme of RKVY, National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oilpalm (NMOOP) etc. for enhancing production and productivity of crops in different agro-ecologies including rainfed areas of the country. The state-wise funds allocated and released for the last three years and the current year is given in Annexure-II (a to d).

(d) & (e): Yes, Madam, about 3.91 lakh hectares have been covered through cluster approach under cropping system and integrated farming system during 2011-12 to 2013-14.