

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1722

ANSWERED ON:22.07.2014

RAINFED FARMING

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of sown area, irrigated and unirrigated area and rainfed area out of total cultivable area including its percentage in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has taken several steps for optimum utilisation of watershed project for the development of rainfed farming in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of funds/subsidy allocated, released and utilised for exclusive growth of rainfed farming in the country during the 12th Five Year Plan, State-wise;
- (d) whether funds allocated for the above purposes are being spent on inputs such as irrigation and fertilizers and if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereon;
- (e) whether the production and productivity of foodgrain varies from State to State in the country and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase the production and productivity of foodgrain in the backwards States?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

- (a): The details of net sown area , irrigated and unirrigated area/ rainfed area out of total cultivable area including its percentage in the country, State-wise are at Annexure-I.
- (b) to (d): Subsidies and support for irrigation and fertilizers etc. to farmers are provided under numerous components of Government schemes. Till 1.4.2008, Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development implemented 3 watershed programmes viz. Integrated Wastelands Development Programme, Drought Prone Areas Programme, Desert Development Programme. Since then, they have been brought under a comprehensive programme named Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) to be implemented under Common Guidelines on Watershed Development. Statewise details of funds allocated under IWMP during the 12th Five Year Plan, are given at Annexure-II.
- (e): The production and productivity of the foodgrain varies from State to State in the country. The State/UT-wise details of production and productivity of foodgrains are at Annexure-III.
- (f): Government has taken several steps to increase the production and productivity of foodgrains in the country including backward States by increasing investment, improving farm practices, rural infrastructure and delivery of credit, technology and other inputs and providing remunerative prices for farm produce through increased Minimum Support Prices (MSPs), higher level of procurement and competitive markets. Further, several programmes/schemes for the development of agriculture sector are implemented in a decentralized manner with flexibility to State Governments to formulate and implement appropriate projects to suit their specific requirements.