

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:717
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2005
ARID LAND CULTIVATION
Yadav Shri Mitrasen

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has prepared any scheme for arid land cultivation in the arid and semi-arid areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the amount allocated by the Government during the financial year 2005-06, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a)&(b): The Ministry of Agriculture has formulated a new scheme `Enhancing Sustainability of Dryland Farming Systems` to address the problems of dryland farming in semi- arid and arid regions of the country particularly in the districts having low annual rainfall and less coverage under irrigation. Initially the scheme is proposed to be launched in 16 districts, 4 each in Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Karnataka.

(c): A provision of Rs.20.0 crore (as Revised Estimate) has been kept for the financial year 2005-06. State-wise allocation of funds will be made after the scheme is finally approved for implementation.