

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2671
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2005
LAND UNDER CASH CROP
Rawale Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the farmers have given emphasis on cash crops instead of conventional crops on a large scale in several areas of the country in the last few years;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any survey to ascertain the areas of land brought under cash crops during the last three years; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, 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): Crop diversification is one of the objectives of the Agricultural Policy. Both the Central and the State Governments encourage farmers to opt for cash crops in preference with conventional crops. Emphasis has also been laid on the programmes under National Horticulture Mission as well as Technology Mission for Cotton, Oilseeds and Pulses in recent years. In this regard, use of micro irrigation is encouraged by providing support to the farmers.

(b)&(c): No such survey has been conducted. However, the area covered under some of the commercial/cash crops is given in the Annexure-I. Further Horticulture Development Programmes have also encouraged agricultural diversification.

Annexure-I

Area Covered under Important Commercial/Cash Crops

(`000 Hectares)
S.No. Crops 2001-02 2002-03 2003-04

1 Sugarcane	4411.6	4520.3	4023.1
2 Cotton	9132.0	7669.7	7629.9
3 Jute	873.1	864.5	848.1
4 Groundnut	6238.1	5935.5	5998.2
5 Rapeseed & Mustard	5073.0	4544.0	5387.3
6 Castorseed	716.7	583.2	732.2
7 Nigerseed	478.0	414.4	436.5
8 Sesamum	1670.6	1444.4	1773.8
9 Linseed	535.8	450.1	525.5
10 Safflower	404.3	369.5	349.2
11 Sunflower	1176.8	1642.2	2000.5
12 Soyabean	6343.1	6105.5	6496.7