

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1636
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2006
DECLINING OF CULTIVABLE LAND
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a steep decline in average farm land holding has been noticed during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;
- (c) whether the cultivable land has also declined during the above period;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any proposal is under consideration to fix minimum quantum of agriculture land and to make it a viable earning through the mode of legislation; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): As per Agriculture Censuses 1985-86, 1990-91 and 1995-96, the average size of operational holding was 1.69 ha., 1.55 ha. and 1.41 ha respectively.

(c) & (d): As per the above Agriculture Censuses, the cultivable land in the country was 161188 thousand hectares, 152659 thousand hectares and 153132 thousand hectares respectively.

(e) & (f): No, Sir.