

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2236  
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2006  
POPULATION OF MARGINAL FARMERS  
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the number of marginal farmers is constantly increasing due to division of land holdings among families owing to increase in population;
- (b) if so, the number of marginal farmers in the country, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government is contemplating to redistribute the land rendered surplus after ceiling among the farmers so as to decrease their number;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has drawn up any action plan for its actual implementation;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the remedial measures taken by the Government to make the farming remunerative for the marginal farmers?

**Answer**

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

- (a): The number of marginal operational holdings, as per different Agriculture Censuses, have increased from 36.20 million in 1970 - 71 to 71.18 million in 1995-96.
- (b): A statement showing the number of marginal holdings as per Agricultural Census, 1995- 96 is enclosed at Annexure- I.
- (c ) to (f): The State Governments on their part implement different schemes to assist small and marginal farmers including re-distribution of surplus land. Government of India also implements schemes which enable the farmers to supplement their income by diversifying into the dairying, fisheries and poultry sectors.

Annexure I

Number of Marginal operational holdings in India, 1995-96 – State-wise

Sl.No. State Number of operational  
Holdings (in Thousand)

1	ANDHRA PRADESH	6300
2	ASSAM	1669
3	BIHAR	11344
4	GUJARAT	1034
5	HARYANA	815
6	HIMACHAL PRADESH	556
7	JAMMU & KASHMIR	1041
8	KARNATAKA	2610
9	KERALA	5918
10	MADHYA PRADESH	3878
11	MAHARASHTRA	4266
12	MANIPUR	69
13	MEGHALAYA	72
14	NAGALAND	9
15	ORISSA	2145
16	PUNJAB	204
17	RAJASTHAN	1611
18	SIKKIM	24
19	TAMILNADU	5951
20	TRIPURA	247
21	UTTAR PRADESH	16237
22	WEST BENGAL	5003
23	A & N ISLANDS	2

24 ARUNACHAL PRADESH 21  
25 D & N HAVELI 7  
26 DELHI 21  
27 GOA 57  
28 MIZORAM 28  
29 PONDICHERRY 26  
30 LAKSHADWEEP 9  
31 CHANDIGARH 1  
32 DAMAN & DIU 3  
ALL INDIA 71179

**Note: Total May not Tally Due to Rounding off**