

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3670
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2006
JHUM CULTIVATION
Charenamei Shri Mani

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) The agency/institutions responsible for study of jhum cultivation in the country, particularly in the North East ;
- (b) The number of families engaged in jhum cultivation in the country, State- wise ;
- (c) The yield of paddy per hectare from jhum cultivation, State-wise ;
- (d) Whether alternative sustainable vocations have been recommended for jhum dependent farmers; and
- (e) If so, the details thereof ?

Answer

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

(a) : Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) Complex for North Eastern Region at Barapani, Meghalaya and North Eastern Regional Institute of Water and Land Management (NERWALM), Tezpur Assam are involved for study of Jhum Cultivation in North Eastern States.

(b) :As per the Task Force Report on Shifting Cultivation in India Statewise number of families involved in jhum cultivation is annexed.

(c) :The productivity level in jhum land has been assessed by National Productivity Council while evaluating the programme of Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas in the States of Nagaland and Tripura. The average yield of paddy under mixed cropping was found 755 Kg/Ha. in pre and post treatment for Nagaland. In case of only paddy cultivation pre and post figures are 1632 Kg/ha. and 1786 Kg/ha for Tripura.

(d)&(e) : Government of India is implementing a Additional Central Assistance to the State Plan Scheme of `Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas

(WDPSCA)` in all North Eastern States namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura with 100% grant from 1994-95 and is continuing during Tenth Five Year Plan. The Scheme aims at overall development of jhum areas on Watershed Basis, reclaiming the land affected by shifting cultivation and socioeconomic upliftment of jhumia families living in these areas by way of encouragement for adoption of settled agriculture.

During first four year of the Tenth Plan (2002-06) an amount of Rs.88.66 crore have been utilized for development of 0.898 lakh ha. Area and for 2006-07 and amount of Rs.40.00 crore is allocated to cover 0.40 lakh ha. area. During Tenth Five Year Plan 43967 families were given alternate employment through diversified agricultural practices, Horticulture development, Household activities and Livelihood support system for encouraging jhumias for adoption of settled agriculture.