

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:787
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2007
CULTIVABLE AND UNCULTIVABLE LAND
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the area of cultivable and uncultivable land in the country, State-wise as on date;
- (b) the area of land in hectare having single crop and multi crop, separately, State-wise;
- (c) the details of proposals under consideration of the Government to make use of the uncultivable land; and
- (d) the manner in which these proposals are proposed to be implemented?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : As per the latest available `Land Use Statistics`, the total area of cultivable land (i.e., aggregate of net area sown, current fallow land, old fallow land, culturable waste land, land under miscellaneous tree crops) in the country in 2003-04 was 183.5 million hectares. The uncultivable land was 122.4 million hectares in that year. The total area under single crops, measured in terms of net area sown, stood at 140.9 million hectares, and that under multiple crops, measured in terms of area sown more than ones, was 49.8 million hectares. The State-wise details are given in the Annexure.

(c) & (d) : The Government of India has been implementing programmes to control soil erosion and land degradation. These programmes aim at reclaiming degraded land under cultivation through watershed development, soil conservation, soil treatment and desert development. These are as follows:

? National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR)

It aims at conservation of land and water resources, optimizing production in rainfed areas and reclamation of degraded land.

? Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchment of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR)

It is a centrally sponsored scheme aimed at enhancing the productivity of degraded lands, minimizing siltation of reservoirs and moderation of flood menace in flood prone rivers.

? Reclamation of Alkali Soil (RAS)

It is intended to reclaim the land affected by alkalinity and improve land and crop productivity including development of horticulture, fuel wood and fodder species.

? Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)

The objective of this scheme is to minimize the adverse effects of drought on production of crops, livestock and productivity of land.

? Desert Development Programmes

This programme aims to mitigate the adverse effects of desertification and adverse climatic conditions on crops, human and livestock population.

? Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP)

This programme allows the stakeholders, including resource poor farmers and disadvantaged section, prepare plans according to their local needs to promote their overall economic development.