

(MSP) for certain agricultural commodities including Raw Jute on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce. The CACP while recommending MSP considers all the relevant factors including the overall demand-supply situation; market prices-both domestic and international, status of Jute economy and cost of production. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by the Government is in the nature of a minimum guaranteed price for the farmers offered by the Government for their produce in case the market prices fall below that level. The MSP for Raw-Jute for TD-5 variety Ex-Assam is fixed at Rs. 1575 per quintal. However, the All India total cost of production for Raw Jute is worked out (projected by CACP) at Rs. 1312 per quintal for 2010-11 season.

(c) and (d) The month end Wholesale prices of TD-5 grade for raw Jute in July 2010 was ruling in the range of Rs. 2500-Rs. 3000 per quintal which is much higher than the MSP of Rs. 1575 per quintal for the current season.

(e) and (f) The Government has already increased the MSP for TD-5 grade of raw Jute ex-Assam from Rs. 1375 per quintal for 2009-10 to Rs. 1575 per quintal for 2010-11, which is higher by Rs. 200 per quintal (or 14.5%) as compared to previous season.

Soil erosion and land degradation

3374. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the total geological areas affected by soil erosion and land degradation, State-wise;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to check the same during the last three years; and
- (c) the achievements made by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Geological areas are basically physical attributes of land from a natural perspective. The study conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), indicates that soil erosion and land degradation has affected about 146.82 million ha. of geographical area in the country. The State-wise details are given in the Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) With a view to prevent soil erosion and land degradation, Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing various Watershed Development Programmes, namely; National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR), Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP and FPR), Reclamation and Development of Alkali and Acid Soils (RADAS) and Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA) across the country. Under these programmes, during last three years (2007-08 to 2009-10), an area of 1.96 million ha. has been developed with a total expenditure of Rs. 1685.08 crore.

Statement

State-wise area affected by Soil Erosion and Land Degradation in India

(Area in thousand hectares)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UTs	Water Erosion	Wind Erosion	Water Logging	Salinity/Alkalinity	Soil Acidity	Complex Problem	Degraded Area	Geographical Area
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11518	0	1896	517	905	156	14992	27507
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2372	0	176	0	1955	0	4503	8374
3.	Assam	688	0	37	0	612	876	2213	7844
4.	Bihar	3024	0	2001	229	1029	0	6283	17387
5.	+Jharkhand								
6.	Goa	60	0	76	0	2	24	162	370
7.	Gujarat	5207	443	523	296	0	1666	8133	19602
8.	Haryana	315	536	146	256	0	214	1467	4421
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2718	0	1303	0	157	0	4178	5567
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5460	1360	200	0	0	0	7020	22224
11.	Karnataka	5810	0	941	110	58	712	7631	19179
12.	Kerala	76	0	2098	0	138	296	2608	3886

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13.	Madhya Pradesh	17883	0	359	46	6796	1126	26210	44344
14.	+Chhattisgarh								
15.	Maharashtra	11179	0	0	1056	517	303	13055	30771
16.	Manipur	133	0	111	0	481	227	952	2233
17.	Mizoram	137	0	0	0	1050	694	1881	2108
18.	Meghalaya	137	0	7	0	1030	34	1208	2243
19.	Nagaland	390	0	0	0	127	478	995	1658
20.	Orissa	5028	0	681	75	263	75	6122	15571
21.	Punjab	372	282	338	288	0	0	1280	5036
22.	Rajasthan	3137	6650	53	1418	0	110	11368	34224
23.	Sikkim	158	0	0	0	76	0	234	710
24.	Tamil Nadu	4926	0	96	96	78	138	5334	13006
25.	Tripura	121	0	191	0	203	113	628	1049
26.	Uttar Pradesh	11392	212	2350	1370	0	0	15324	29441
27.	+Uttarakhand								
28.	West Bengal	1197	0	710	170	556	119	2752	8875

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
29.	Delhi	55	0	6	10	0	11	82	148
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	187	0	0	9	0	9	205	825
31.	Chandigarh *								11
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli *								49
33.	Daman and Diu *								11
34.	Lakshadweep *								3
35.	Pondicherry *								48
GRAND TOTAL		93680	9483	14299	5946	16033	7381	146820	328725
GRAND TOTAL (Million ha.)		93.68	9.48	14.30	5.95	16.03	7.38	146.82	328.72

*Degradation details are not available.

Source: National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS&LUP) — Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Regional Centre, Nagpur, Maharashtra