

- (c) whether Government considers it necessary to import vaccines for the purpose;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) There has been no report of losses of livestock due to insufficient production of vaccines from any State and Union Territory Governments. However, there is a marginal shortfall in the production of swine fever vaccine.

(c) to (e) The required quantity of vaccines is produced in the country at 27 veterinary vaccine production units, of which 20 are in the public sector and 7 in private sector. Import of vaccine is permitted as and when required on case to case basis.

#### **Production and demand of foodgrains**

†1885. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area of agriculture land in the country at present in hectare and total amount of foodgrains being produced on that every year;

(b) the extent of demand of foodgrains in the country in comparison to its production and the amount of foodgrains imported to fulfil this demand;

(c) whether it is a fact that 10 per cent of agricultural land is being utilized for industry, infrastructure and urbanization every year;

(d) if so, whether Government are considering any plan to protect agricultural land in view of seriousness of the situation; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) A statement showing total area of agriculture land and production of foodgrains in the country during last five years is as follows:—

Year	Agriculture land in the country (million hectares)	Production of foodgrains (million tonnes)
1	2	3
2005-06	121.60	208.60
2006-07	123.71	217.28
2007-08	124.07	230.78

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3
2008-09	122.83	234.47
2009-10	121.37	218.20*

\* As per 4th Advance estimate

Though, there is a marginal decrease in the agriculture land, foodgrains production has increased significantly from 208.60 Million Tonnes in 2005-06 to 234.47 Million Tonnes in 2008-09. Production dropped to 218.20 Million Tonnes in 2009-10 due to severe drought conditions that prevailed in the major parts of the country.

(b) The Demand Supply estimates of foodgrains is given below:—

(In Million Tonnes)

Year	Foodgrains		
	Projected demand*	Estimated production#	Deficit(-)/ Surplus(+) (2-3)
2007-08	214.02	230.78	16.76
2008-09	219.01	234.47	+15.46
2009-10	224.04	218.20	-5.84
2010-11	229.12		
2011-12	234.26		

Source: \*Planning Commission

#as per the 4th advance estimate 2010 of Directorate of Economics and Statistics

As per the DGCS the following imports of foodgrains have been made during 2006-07 to 2009-10:—

Quantity ('000 tonnes)

Commodity	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (P)
Pulses	2476.25	3891.91	2474.11	3448.35
Wheat		5850.49	0.01	160.08
Rice	0.34	0.41	0.09	0.06
Other Cereals	30.09	11.73	20.60	33.65

P – Provisional

Source: Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Ministry of Commerce, Kolkata.

(c) to (e) The following table shows area under non-agricultural purposes and agricultural land during 2004-05 to 2007-08:—

(Thousand Hectares)

Year	Reporting area	Area under non-agricultural purposes	Agricultural land	% share of area under non-agricultural purposes to the reporting area	% share of agricultural land to the reporting area
2004-05	305578	24890	183007	8.1	59.9
2005-06	305432	25105	182737	8.2	59.8
2006-07	305638	25537	182545	8.4	59.7
2007-08	305679	25923	182442	8.5	59.7

*Source:* DES, Ministry of Agriculture.

It is evident from the table that the per cent share of Area under non-agricultural purpose to the total reporting area has increased marginally from 8.1% to 8.5% during 2004-05 to 2007-08. Also the per cent share of agricultural land to the total reported area has only marginally decreased from 59.9% to 59.7% during the said period.

The National Policy for Farmers-2007 envisages that prime farmland must be conserved for agriculture except under exceptional circumstances, provided that the agencies that are provided with agricultural land for non-agricultural projects should compensate for treatment and full development of equivalent degraded/wastelands elsewhere. State Governments have been advised to earmark lands with low biological potential such as uncultivable land, land affected by salinity, acidity, etc., for non-agricultural development activities, including industrial and construction activities.

With a view to avoid foodgrains crisis and to prevent soil erosion, land degradation and maintaining balance in different types of uses, Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture, is implementing various watershed development programmes; namely National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA), Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP&FPR), Reclamation and Development of Alkali and Acid Soils (RADAS) and Water Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) across the country. Under these programmes, in last three years (2007-2010), an area of 19.57 lakh hectares has been developed at an expenditure of Rs. 1685.08 crore. During 2010-11 also an amount of Rs. 555.71 crore has been allocated for development of 5.8 lakh hectares.