

Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura is 6.68 km. per lakh of population which is greater than national average of 6.22 km. per lakh of population. In area term, network density of 8 N.E. States is 9.93 km./1000 sq.kms. which is less than national average of 19.61 km./1000 sq.kms.

(b) to (d) To augment Railway network in N.E. Region, 14 no. of new line projects covering a length of 1222.037 kms. at a cost of Rs. 28141.66 crore, 4 no. of gauge conversion projects covering a length of 1510.06 kms. at a cost of Rs. 8124.44 crore and 2 no. of doubling projects covering a length of 186.92 kms. at a cost of Rs. 2044.07 crore have been taken up.

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## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

### Farming of soyabean

†4031. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the substances in soyabean that prevent farmers to produce other crops in the same fields immediately after continuous production of soyabean crops two-three times;

(b) whether Government has ever tried to ascertain the reasons therefor; and

(c) if so, the details of the substances which can maintain the fertility of soil and can help farmers to produce other crops immediately after the farming of soyabean?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) No scientific evidence is available which suggests that other crops cannot be grown after continuous production of soybean in the same field.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Soybean is a leguminous crop and fixes nitrogen from the atmosphere, thus adding nitrogen to the soil and maintains general soil health status. In order to ensure profitable yield of soybean and subsequent crops in specific agro-climatic

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

situation, remunerative soybean-based cropping systems and integrated nutrient management practices have been developed by Directorate of Soybean Research, Indore. Wheat, chickpea, mustard, potato etc., are being grown successfully after the harvest of soybean with application of recommended doses of nutrients to respective crops.

#### **Shrinking of agricultural land**

4032. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that agricultural land across the country has shrunk over the years;
- (b) if so, the size of agricultural land across the country over the years during 2001-13;
- (c) the current status of agricultural land usages in Haryana;
- (d) whether agricultural land in Haryana has reduced during 2001-13;
- (e) the details of agricultural land usages in Haryana over these years; and
- (f) the corrective steps being taken to address the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) As per the latest Land Use Statistics data (LUS, 2010-11) compiled by Directorate of Economics and Statistics; Ministry of Agriculture, the agricultural land in the country has marginally shrunk to 182.0 million hectares in 2010-11 as compared to 183.6 million hectares in 2001-02.

(c) to (e) As per LUS, 2010-11 the details of agricultural land usages in Haryana during 2001-2011 is tabulated below:—

(in thousand hectares)		
Classification of agricultural land usages	2001-02	2010-11
1	2	3
Net area sown	3566	3518
Current fallows	173	122
Fallow lands other than current fallows	0	3