

**Conversion of agricultural land for other purposes**

2479. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) how much agricultural land in acres/hectares term earmarked/allotted/ converted for urbanisation, industrialisation and infrastructure projects in the country as a whole during last five years, with specific reference to Gujarat and Jharkhand;

(b) whether according to NSSO Report of 2005, 60 per cent farmers of the country do not like farming; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, how did NSSO come to such a conclusion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) As per the latest land use statistics data (2011-12) compiled by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, agricultural land in the country has declined from 182.44 million hectares in 2007-08 to 181.98 million hectares in 2011-12, on account of urbanization, industrialization etc. In Jharkhand, the agricultural land has declined from 4.30 million hectares in 2007-08 to 4.29 million hectares in 2011-12. In Gujarat, the agricultural land has increased from 12.46 million hectares in 2007-08 to 12.66 million hectares in 2011-12.

(b) and (c) The National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, conducted the Situation assessment Survey of Farmers in 2003 in the rural areas of the country. Based on this survey, NSSO report on "Some Aspects of Farming" was published in 2005. As per this report, at the all-India level, 60% of farmer households reported that they liked farming as a profession. The remaining 40% were of the opinion that, given a choice, they would take up some other career.

**Second Green Revolution**

2480. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has plans to usher in the second Green Revolution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any expert committee/group has been constituted by Government to monitor the second Green Revolution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (d) In order to meet the food grain

requirement of the growing population of the country, the Government of India is laying emphasis on development of resource rich eastern region of the country for enhancing agricultural production. This would also help in reducing the over exploitation of natural resources in north western region, the traditional food bowl of the country. Accordingly, the Government of India launched in a programme of “Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI)” –a sub scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) in seven eastern States of Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh (East) and West Bengal. The objective of the programme is to increase the productivity of rice based cropping system by promotion of recommended agricultural technologies by addressing the underlying key constraints of different agro climatic sub regions. The programme is being continued during 2014-15 in 121 identified districts of the seven States with an allocation of ₹ 1000/- crore.

Central Rice Research Institute (CRRI), Cuttack has been assigned the responsibility of providing technical backstopping to the programme. A three tier monitoring structure has been created at National, State and District levels with the active involvement of agricultural scientists of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs).

#### **Decrease in number of indigenous cows**

2481. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether number of buffaloes is increasing and number of indigenous cows is decreasing continuously over the years as Swadeshi cows were 1,78,782 in 1997 which reduced to 1,26,495 in 2014.

(b) if so, the present status thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether such neglect of GOMATA is a matter of grave concern; and

(d) whether Brazil has imported indigenous cows from India as their overall performance is better than exotic breeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The number of buffaloes and indigenous female cattle in the country as per Censuses 1997, 2003 and 2007 are given in the table below.

Species	1997 (in millions)	2003 (in millions)	2007 (in millions)
Buffalo	89.92	97.92	105.34
Female indigenous cattle	88.58	82.96	89.24