

**Conversion of waste land into arable land**

†2586. DR. CHANDRAPAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land in hilly and plateau region converted into arable land throughout the decade; and

(b) the details of area of waste land converted into arable land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) As per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, land and its management comes under the purview of State Governments. However, as per the latest available Land Use Statistics data, “barren and unculturable land” which includes land covered by mountains, deserts etc. has declined from 17414 thousand hectare in 2001-02 to 17227 hectare in 2011-12 and area of, ‘culturable wastelands’ has decreased from 13520 thousand hectare in 2001-2002 to 12636 thousand hectare in 2011-12.

**Scheme for poor fishermen**

2587. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes Government have for poor fishermen who do not have their own fishing boats; and

(b) the other schemes Government have to provide financial help and sustainable livelihood to the poor fishermen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries implements a Central Sector Scheme on National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen for both inland and marine sector. The scheme has four components namely (i) Development of Model Fishermen village, (ii) Group Accident Personal Insurance, (iii) Saving-cum-Relief and (iv) Training and Extension. The component on Saving-cum-Relief is implemented for benefit of fishermen who are engaged in active fishing, member of cooperative society/federation/welfare society, lives below poverty line, does not own mechanized fishing boat/bench landing craft and below 60 years of age.

(b) The other schemes implemented by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries to provide financial help and sustainable livelihood are as below:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.