

Cultivable land left uncultivated

1365. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large area of cultivable land has been left uncultivated in various parts of the country during last year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to address the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (c) As per report on Land Use Statistics for 2012-13 (latest available), the details of area of cultivable land and the uncultivated land (Culturable waste land including fallow land) in the country are given as under:

(Thousand Hectare)

Year	Cultivable land	Uncultivable land
2012-13	181950	38871

As per Seventh Schedule of Constitution of India, land comes under the purview of State Governments and, therefore, it is for the State Governments to take suitable steps to bring uncultivated land under cultivation. However, in order to extend irrigation facilities to bring more and more land under agriculture, the Government of India launched in July, 2015 the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) which aims at providing end-to-end solutions in irrigation supply chain, viz. water sources, and distribution network and farm level applications. It adopts State level planning and projectised execution that allows States to draw up their own irrigation development based on District Irrigation Plans and State Irrigation Plans. Under the above scheme micro irrigation is also popularized to ensure 'Per drop-More crop'.

Besides, Ministry of Rural Development had also been implementing an Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) for development of rainfed/ degraded areas. From 2015-16, the IWMP has been converted as the Watershed Component of the PMKSY.