

[Shri Angadi Suresh Channabasappa]

comes from my State only. His question relates to the previous Government. The earlier Government did not cooperate to give the land, and complete other formalities, whatever the Railways wanted. Now that project is going on and we are discussing with the State Government and the concerned JV company. The Karnataka cadre is there and the Central Government is there.

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Sir, it is wrong to say that the earlier Government did not cooperate.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Allow him to speak.

SHRI ANGADI SURESH CHANNABASAPPA: Let me answer the hon. Member. We are studying that and as soon as we get the details from the State Government about land and other facilities, like, investments, definitely, that will be taken up.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Question No. 200.

Shrinking of agricultural land in the country

*200. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that agricultural lands are shrinking in the country in recent years;
- (b) if so, the measures taken to expand agricultural land/activities to meet the needs of the growing population in the country;
- (c) whether Government has any proposal to acquire agricultural land in other countries; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

- (a) As per report on Land Use Statistics for 2014-15 (latest available), agricultural land/ cultivable land in the country has declined only marginally from 182.01 million

hectares in 2010-11 to 181.89 million hectares in 2014-15 (Table below). The decline in agricultural land has been mainly due to diversion for non-agricultural purposes such as urbanization, roads, industries, housing etc.

(Million hectares)

Year	Agricultural Land/ Arable Land / Cultivable land
2010-11	182.01
2011-12	181.96
2012-13	182.09
2013-14	181.85
2014-15	181.89

(b) As per Seventh Schedule of Constitution of India, land comes under the purview of State Government. Therefore, the State Governments are to take suitable steps to check diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes. However, under the National Policy for Farmers - 2007 (NPF-2007), 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 developmental activities, including industrial and construction activities. National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy - 2007 (1MRRP-2007) has also recommended that as far as possible, projects may be set up on waste land, degraded land or un-irrigated land. Acquisition of irrigated, multi-cropped agricultural land for non-agricultural uses may be kept to the minimum and avoided, to the extent possible.

Although there has been a marginal decreasing trend in the cultivable land during the last ten years, but due to technological advances and various initiatives of the Government, the production of foodgrains and horticulture crops has been showing an increasing trend. The production of foodgrains and horticultural crops from 2010-11 to 2018-19 is given in the Annexure (*See below*).

Further, Ministry of Rural Development is 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 Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). Government of India is also implementing

National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) with a view to prevent soil erosion, land degradation and also to maintain balance in various types of land uses across the country. Under this Mission, all type of land including wastelands/barren land are developed with suitable need based soil and water conservation measures and partly such degraded lands developed are put to agricultural uses.

In order to bring waste/degraded land into cultivation, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed several location specific bio-engineering measures to check soil erosion due to run-off of rain water, sand dune stabilization and shelter belt technology to check wind erosion, reclamation technology for saline, sodic, waterlogged and acid soils in the country. Agro forestry intervention has also been suggested. The ICAR also imparts training, organises Frontline Demonstrations (FLDs) etc. to educate farmers on all these aspects.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Annexure

*Production of Food grains and Horticulture crops
from the year 2010-11 to 2018-19*

Year	(Million Tonnes)	
	Food Grains	Horticulture Crops
2010-11	244.49	240.531
2011-12	259.29	257.277
2012-13	257.12	268.848
2013-14	265.05	277.352
2014-15	252.02	280.986
2015-16	251.54	286.188
2016-17	275.11	300.643
2017-18	285.01	311.714
2018-19	284.95*	313.85**

* As per the Fourth Advance Estimates of production of Foodgrains

** As per the Third Advance Estimate of production of Horticulture crops

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has any plans to establish Indian Agriculture Regulatory Authority to regulate post-harvest management of agricultural produce and to facilitate farmers to get the MSP fixed for their agricultural produce.

श्री परशोत्तम रूपाला: सर, यह जो सवाल है, यह बंजर भूमि से जुड़ा हुआ सवाल है, इसलिए मैं बंजर भूमि से संबंधित आंकड़ों को लेकर इधर आया हूँ। लेकिन अब माननीय सदस्य agricultural commodities के लिए regulatory authority के संबंध में पूछना चाहते हैं।

श्री उपसभापति: आप इसे छोड़ भी सकते हैं।

श्री परशोत्तम रूपाला: आपके प्रश्न का बिंदु इस प्रश्न के साथ नहीं मिलता है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Put your supplementary which is related to this question.

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: My question is: For increasing agricultural produce, is the Government planning to establish a regulatory authority? Everywhere, in India, so many....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is about shrinking of agricultural land. Please put your question relating to this.

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Sir, my next question is: What are the steps taken by the Government to expand farming area to provide adequate support for farmers in the country, to increase food grain production, in developing organic farming in the country, especially, for the production of contamination-free fruits and vegetables.

श्री परशोत्तम रूपाला: माननीय उपसभापति जी, माननीय सदस्य जानना चाहते हैं कि उस जमीन की बढ़ोतरी कैसे की जाए। यह वैसे ही आपके इस सवाल का अर्थ भी था। जो बंजर जमीन है, उसके लिए हमारे ICR के संशोधनों के तहत कुछ टेक्नोलॉजी और उसकी गाइडेंस राज्यों को दी जाती है। राज्य सरकार इन योजनाओं को उपयोग में लेते हुए-- पिछले 10 साल की जो फिगर है, वह मैं आपको बता सकता हूँ। 14536 sq. km of waste land has been converted into non-waste land. तो ये सारी योजनाएँ चल रही हैं और हम इसमें आगे बढ़ रहे हैं।

आपने जो दूसरा सवाल productivity बढ़ाने के बारे में पूछा है, तो इसके लिए भी हम उन्नत किस्म के बीज, उन्नत प्रौद्योगिकी, खेती में नवाचार, इन सारी चीजों में राज्य सरकारों की मदद से वहाँ निर्देशन करके, किसानों का मार्गदर्शन कर रहे हैं।

डा. अशोक बाजपेयी: माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहूँगा कि जिस तरह से खेती की जमीन सिकुड़ रही है, इसको ध्यान में रखते हुए क्या सरकार के पास बंजर भूमि, जो sodic land है, पटारी जमीन है या नदियों के किनारे, जैसे चम्बल के ravines हैं, इनको reclaim करके खेती के योग्य बनाने के लिए कोई ऐसी योजना है, जिससे यह जो गैर-उपजाऊ जमीन है, इसको हम खेती के योग्य तैयार कर सकें?

श्री परशोत्तम रुपाला: माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय सदस्य को बताना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसी 4 प्रकार की जमीनें हैं, जिनको reclaim करने के लिए अलग-अलग फार्मूला और अलग-अलग टेक्नोलॉजी ICR के द्वारा उपलब्ध हैं। वह राज्य सरकारों को बता भी दिया गया है और कई राज्य सरकारों ने इसका इस्तेमाल भी किया है। पिछले सवाल के जवाब में मैंने जो फिगर बताया था, वह राज्य सरकारों के द्वारा ही अपनी बंजर जमीनों को reclaim करके बताया हुआ है। तो आपने जिस एरिया का बताया है, वह भी राज्य सरकार की सहायता से हमारे मार्गदर्शन से वे कर सकते हैं।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: उपसभापति जी, मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि जिस तरह से आजकल industrial events हो रही हैं और इंडस्ट्रीज़ को बढ़ावा दिया जा रहा है और जो जमीन है, उसी के ऊपर इंडस्ट्रीज़ लगनी हैं, क्या ratio रखी जा रही है कि यह खेती के लिए है या इंडस्ट्री के लिए है? चूँकि खेती की जमीन कम हो रही है, जैसा सभी बता रहे हैं, तो यह एक बहुत जरूरी बात है कि हम उसमें कितनी ratio रखते हैं कि इतनी इंडस्ट्री को जायेगी और इतनी खेती के लिए reclaim की जायेगी?

श्री परशोत्तम रुपाला: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, यह सवाल ऐसे ही व्यापक तौर पर पूछा जाता है और राज्य सरकारों को इसमें अपना अधिकार है। किन जमीनों को रिजर्व रखना है, इसका वे अपना प्लान बनाते हैं। उसमें पहले से ही राज्य का भी प्लान बनता है। उसमें वे अपनी marking करते हैं कि यह agriculture है, non-agriculture है या industrial है। राज्य की जरूरत के हिसाब से और देश की जनता की जरूरत के हिसाब से सब चुनी हुई सरकारें इसकी प्लानिंग कर रही हैं।

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS: Sir, the agriculture-related land reforms by the Mamata Banerjee Government in West Bengal have yielded magical results.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please put your question.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS: Yes, Sir. Now the question comes. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Centre has any plan to bring about land reforms on the lines of West Bengal model for saving agricultural land.

श्री परशोत्तम रुपाला: सर, वैसे हम कई समय से वैस्ट बंगाल सरकार से वहाँ से किसानों के नाम, सरनामा मँगा रहे हैं कि आपके यहाँ कितने किसान हैं, उनके नाम, सरनामा यदि उनके एड्रेस वगैरह की जानकारी हमें देंगे, तो हम बंगाल के किसानों को 6,000 रुपये पहुँचाने का

कार्यक्रम हाथ में ले सकते हैं। यदि इसी में भी राज्य की सरकार चाहती है, तो हमारे साथ बैठ कर इसका प्लान बना सकती है। आपकी योजना क्या है, उसी की तर्ज पर भारत सरकार को करना, क्या करना है, वह एक अलग चीज़ है। आप अपना मॉडल हमें बता दें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Protection of traditional knowledge under India's IPR Policy

*201. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether studies have been undertaken by Government in the last three years to determine the appropriateness and extent of applying the existing laws to protecting Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions, as per India's Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the initiatives undertaken by Government to nurture Human Capital in relation to intellectual property, as per India's IPR Policy, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Although no specific study has been undertaken by the Government in the last three years to determine the appropriateness and extent of applying the existing laws to protecting Traditional Knowledge (TK) and Traditional Cultural Expressions (TCE) as per India's IPR policy. However, Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine (FITM) set up through the joint efforts of Ministry of AYUSH and Research and Information Systems for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi has published following scoping papers:

- Protection of Traditional Knowledge in India
- Protection of Traditional Cultural Expressions in India

Scoping Paper on Protection of Traditional Knowledge in India and on Protection of Traditional Cultural Expressions in India has identified scope for the future study.

Further, the Indian Laws are very robust and provide adequate provisions for the