

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2898

TO BE ANSWERED ON 20/12/2024

AGRICULTURAL USE OF KHAR LANDS IN KONKAN REGION

2898. SHRI DHAIRYASHIL MOHAN PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken to promote agricultural use of Khar lands in Konkan region;
- (b) the current status of reclamation of Khar lands and digitization of land records; and
- (c) the programmes being run to provide financial assistance and technical guidance to farmers cultivating on Khar lands?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): Steps have been taken by the Government of Maharashtra to promote agricultural use of Khar lands in Konkan region. Due to spreading of sea water in low lying areas adjoining the coast and creeks, agricultural land is affected by saline water. To avoid such type of occurrence, Khar land Development Schemes are implemented by the Water Resources Department. The schemes comprise of construction of an earthen bund which prevents spreading of tidal water in the agricultural fields. Cross Drainage Works are also constructed in the bund to provide way for flood water towards sea. In 1981-82, the Government of Maharashtra carried out survey of all the locations in Konkan region and prepared Master Plan of 575 Khar land Development schemes for reclaiming 49133 hectares of Khar land. Ministry of Environment and Forest, government of India accorded clearance to all these schemes from the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) notification of 1991.

(b): Out of the total 575 Khar land schemes, 31 are in Thane district, 56 in Palghar district, 136 in Raigad district, 93 in Ratnagiri District and 108 in Sindhudurg district. 424 Khar land schemes have been completed and a total area of 42445 hectare has been reclaimed. As far as digitization is concerned, a pilot project to map the reclaimed land along with the bund details and its superimposition on satellite image is completed. Drone survey is being carried out in the District of Thane and Palghar.

(c): The Government of India implements the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project with the assistance of the World Bank. Under this Project there are 2 schemes in Raigad district viz. Narvel Benavale and Kachali Pitkari Khar land scheme and one in Palghar District viz. Vadhiv Khar land Scheme. All the 3 schemes are completed and 2052 ha area has been reclaimed under these 3 schemes. Further, 41 Khar land schemes were sanctioned under the Konkan Disaster Mitigation Project under Central Government assistance. Under the State Government till date 40 Khar land schemes have been sanctioned.
