

(e) the steps Government is taking to protect the agricultural land so that it may not decrease?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) State-wise and district-wise Land Use Statistics (LUS) comprising agricultural and non-agricultural land are furnished annually by State Agricultural Statistics Authority (SASA) of each State/UT. These are compiled and posted on the website of Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture at <http://eands.dacnet.nic.in>. As per the data supplied by SASA, agricultural land in the country was 182 million hectares and non-agricultural land comprising forests, area under non-agricultural uses, barren and unculturable land and permanent pasture and other grazing land was 123 million hectares in 2009-10.

(e) With a view to prevent the use of agriculture land for non-agricultural purposes and sustaining food security of the country, the National Policy for Farmers 2007 has recommended that prime farmland must be conserved for agriculture except under exceptional circumstances, provided that the agencies that are provided with agricultural land for non-agricultural projects should compensate for treatment and full development of equivalent degraded/wastelands elsewhere. For non-agricultural purposes, as far as possible, land with low biological potential for farming would be earmarked and allocated. 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 development activities, including industrial and construction activities.

In addition, the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 formulated by Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Land Resources came into effect on 31.10.2007. The policy provides that only the minimum area of land commensurate with the purpose of a project may be acquired. Also, as far as possible, projects may be set up on wasteland, degraded land or un-irrigated land. Further, acquisition of agricultural land for non-agricultural use in the project may be kept to the minimum; multi-cropped land may be avoided to the extent possible for such purposes and acquisition of irrigated land, if unavoidable, may be kept to the minimum. The Policy has been sent to the States/UTs for implementation.

Adarsh Stations

*369. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed any target for upgradation of stations as Adarsh Station for the year 2012-13;

(b) if so, the details of stations upgraded as Adarsh Station, till date; and

(c) the details of stations likely to be upgraded as Adarsh Station in Andhra Pradesh and the number of stations upgraded as Adarsh Station, till date?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) Adarsh Station Scheme was introduced in the year 2009. 980 stations over Indian Railways have been identified up to 2012, against which 653 stations have been developed so far. 70 more stations have been identified for development under this scheme during Railway Budget 2013-14. Upgradation of stations is a continuous process and works in this regard are undertaken subject to availability of funds.

36 stations in the State of Andhra Pradesh *viz.* Aler, Ghanpur, Jammikunta, Kazipet, Khammam, Lingampalli, Tandur, Vikarabad, Warangal, Adilabad, Ananthapur, Bapatla, Bhongir, Chittor, Dwarapudi, Gudur, Guntakal, Guntur, Janagoan, Kakinada Town, Kamareddi, Karimnagar, Kurnool Town, Mahabubnagar, Nalgonda, Nandyal, Narsaraopet, Nellore, Nizamabad, Raghunathpalli, Ramagundam, Renigunta, Zahirabad, Srikakulam Road, Vizianagaram, Hindupur have been upgraded as Adarsh Stations so far.

9 stations *viz.* Macherla, Machilipatnam, Malkajgiri, Piduguralla, Sattenpalli, Shankarpalli, Vinukonda, Bobbili and Duvvada stations in the State of Andhra Pradesh are planned to be upgraded under Adarsh Stations scheme during 2012-13 and 2013-14.

Teaching of Hindi and Sanskrit in Navodaya Vidyalayas

†*370. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the places in the country where Navodaya Vidyalayas are situated, State-wise;

(b) the names of Navodaya Vidyalayas which have arrangement for teaching of Hindi and Sanskrit; and

(c) the classes in which these languages are taught?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.