

Regarding: Shrinking of Agriculture Land

Un-starred CQ No. 208: Shri Surinder Kumar Chowdhary: Will the Government be pleased to state:-

Question	Reply
a) Whether it is a fact that agriculture land is shrinking in the state with every passing day;	Yes Sir, it is fact that agriculture land is shrinking in the State with every passing day due to growing population, urbanization, industrialization, expansion of road, rail network, unauthorized change of land use etc.
b) If yes, steps they have taken so far to arrest shrinking of agriculture land;	The Government enacted an act "The Jammu & Kashmir Prohibition on Conversion of Agricultural Land for Non- Agricultural Purposes Act 2011" (L.A. Bill No. 15 of 2011) to arrest the menace of conversion of Agricultural Land for Non- Agricultural Purposes strictly in the State. But the Bill has been referred to the Select Committee. However the existing provisions in J&K land Revenue Act and Agrarian Reforms Act, which deal in conversion of certain types of land are being strictly enforced.
c) Whether it is fact that they had constituted a select committee comprising members of both the Houses to discuss bill to check conversion of agriculture land for commercial purposes;	Yes Sir, the Government has constituted a select committee comprising members of both the Houses to discuss the bill to check conversion of agriculture land for non- agricultural or commercial purposes before it is considered by the State Legislature again.
d) If yes, the status of that select committee?	The Bill namely "The Jammu & Kashmir Prohibition on Conversion of Agricultural Land for Non- Agricultural Purposes Bill, 2011" (L.A. Bill No. 15 of 2011) was referred to the Joint Select Committee of both the Houses of the State Legislature but with the dissolution of State Assembly, the said Bill having not been passed, got lapsed.

Sd/-
I/C Minister
Agriculture Department

Assistant Director (Planning)
Agriculture Production Department.