

LAND USE STATISTICS CONCEPTS & DEFINITIONS

A: NINE-FOLD CLASSIFICATION:

- 1. Forest Area:** This includes all land classified either as forest under any legal enactment, or administered as forest, whether State-owned or private, and whether wooded or maintained as potential forest land. The area of crops raised in the forest and grazing lands or areas open for grazing within the forests remain included under the "forest area".
- 2. Area under Non-agricultural Uses:** This includes all land occupied by buildings, roads and railways or under water, e.g. rivers and canals, and other land put to uses other than agriculture.
- 3. Barren and Un-culturable Land:** This includes all land covered by mountains, deserts, etc. Land, which cannot be brought under cultivation except at an exorbitant cost is classified as unculturable whether such land is in isolated blocks or within cultivated holdings.
- 4. Permanent Pasture and other Grazing Land:** This includes all grazing land whether it is permanent pasture/meadows or not. Village common grazing land is included under this category.
- 5. Land under Miscellaneous Tree Crops, etc.:** This includes all cultivable land, which is not included in 'Net area sown' but is put to some agricultural use. Land under casuring trees, thatching grasses, bamboo bushes and other groves for fuel, etc. which are not included under 'Orchards' are classified under this category.
- 6. Culturable Waste Land:** This includes land available for cultivation, whether taken up or not taken up for cultivation once, but not cultivated during the last five years or more in succession including the current year for some reason or the other. Such land may be either fallow or covered with shrubs and jungles, which are not put to any use. They may be accessible or inaccessible and may lie in isolated blocks or within cultivated holdings.
- 7. Fallow Lands other than Current Fallows:** This includes all land, which was taken up for cultivation but is temporarily out of cultivation for a period of not less than one year and not more than five years.
- 8. Current Fallows:** This represents cropped area, which is kept fallow during the current year.
- 9. Net Area Sown:** This represents the total area sown with crops and orchards. Area sown more than once in the same year is counted only once.

B. DEFINITIONS OF SOME COMMONLY USED TERMS:

(i) **Geographical Area:** The latest figures of geographical area of the State/Union Territories are as provided by the Office of the Surveyor General of India.

(ii) **Reporting Area for Land Utilisation Statistics:** The Reporting area stands for the area for which data on land use classification is available. In areas where land

