

(d) Does not arise.

**Wasteland Reclamation**

\*85 SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide loans at low rate of interest with a view to develop the wasteland and to enhance the contribution of corporate sector for this purpose:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are in favour of providing single window facility to make available information about technical and financial assistance in this regard;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any action plan in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the funds allocated for the development of wasteland in the country, particularly in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL (DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT) (COL RAM SINGH)

(a) and (b): With a view to mobilising investment from the Corporate Sector and financial institutions for the development of

wastelands in non-forest areas, Government after consideration of the experience of an earlier scheme and in consultation with the Corporate Sector/NABARD/Nationalised Banks, is considering a proposal to introduce an Investment Promotional Scheme. Under this scheme the National Wastelands Development Board will provide a grant of upto 25% of the cost of a project for the development of non-forest wastelands or upto Rs. 25 lakhs per project whichever is less provided the project is cleared for financing by the banks/ financial institutions.

(c) to (e): As different institutions and Government agencies involved in the process of approval of projects for development of wastelands, including identification and availability of land and specific technologies for development, preparation of the project and funding and issues relating to State lands Laws, it would not be practical at this stage to evolve a single window clearance facility. However, the Department has under consideration a proposal to set up regional centres where data-base relating to availability of wastelands and 'Escorts Services' to those who are interested in taking up wastelands development projects including corporate bodies and private entrepreneurs can be provided.

(f) The amount spent for the development of wastelands through afforestation / tree planting and related activities in the country and in Gujarat during the last three years is given below:

Year	Country	Gujarat
	(Rupees in Crores)	
1990 - 91	538.95	35.08
1991 - 92	751.98	58.20
1992 - 93	734.80	41.27