

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:303
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2000
EFFICACY OF WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES
SRINIVASULU KALAVA;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per recently released Wasteland Atlas of India 20.17% land was found as wasteland;
- (b) whether the wasteland development programme is not yielding desired results in the country;
- (c) if so, whether the experts have stressed to reverse the trend in order to check the problem of food security in future;
- (d) whether any evaluation study of the Programme has been made by the Government; and
- (e) if so, the details of various programmes taken up under this scheme during the last three years, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Wastelands are degraded lands which are currently un-utilized or under- utilized and are deteriorating for lack of appropriate water and soil management or on account of natural causes. The Department of LandResources (DoLR) is implementing an Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) for development of non-forestwastelands on watershed basis. This programme seeks to improve the productivity of wastelands to grow appropriate bio-mass as also to prevent further degradation. Hence agricultural operations are generally not possible on such lands at the first stage of development.

The evaluation of the projects under IWDP is being carried outthrough the independent evaluators on project to project basis. In addition, institutional arrangements like State Watershed Programme Implementation and the Review Committee at the State level and Watershed Development Advisory Committee at District level to monitor, review and evaluate the progress of implementation of Watershed Development Programme are also in vogue .State-wise details of the projects sanctioned under IWDP Scheme during last three years is given at Annexure.

ANNEXURE

Annexure referred to in part (b) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 303 for reply on 21.11.2000

Statement showing State-wise details of the projects sanctioned under IWDP Scheme during last 3 years.

Sr. No.Name of the State No. of Projects sacntioned

- 1. Andhra Pradesh 15
- 2. Arunachal Pradesh 1
- 3. Assan 4
- 4. Bihar 1
- 5. Gujarat 13
- 6. Himachal Pradesh 9
- 7 Haryana 2

8. Jammu & Kashmir 3

9. Karnataka 14

10. Maharashtra 9

11. Meghalaya 2

12. Manipur 7

13. Madhya Pradesh 18

14. Nagaland 5

15. Orissa 13

16. Rajasthan 11

17. Sikkim 5

18. Tamil Nadu 10

19. Uttar Pradesh 24

TOTAL: 166