

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:15
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2002
CONVERSION OF BARREN LAND INTO AGRICULTURAL LAND
B.K. PARTHASARATHI;GANTA SRINVASA RAO

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of scheme under implementation to convert the barren land into agricultural land, State-wise;
- (b) whether these schemes are being implemented through a time bound action plan;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor, State-wise; and
- (d) the remedial steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.15 DUE FOR REPLY ON 15TH JULY, 2002.

(a) to (d): Barren land refers to exposed steep mountain slopes, snow covered and such other areas, which cannot be brought under cultivation at an economic cost, hence there is no scheme for development of such areas.

However, Government of India is implementing following schemes for development of wasteland and degraded lands:

- i) Integrated Wasteland Development Project.
- ii) Desert Development Programme.
- iii) Drought Prone Areas Programme.
- iv) Reclamation of Alkali Soils.
- v) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas.
- vi) National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas.
- vii) Soil conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded lands in the catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers.

The schemes No. (i) to (iii) are being implemented by Ministry of Rural Development and remaining schemes No. (iv) to (vii) are being implemented by Ministry of Agriculture.