

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2304
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2002
DROUGHT PRONE AREA PROGRAMME
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of districts covered under DPAP, State-wise;
- (b) whether there is a proposal to reduce the number of districts being covered under the programme;
- (c) whether the irrigation projects have reached the earlier drought prone areas in some States like Rajasthan and Gujarat;
- (d) if so; the details thereof;
- (e) whether any review has been done of the need for DPAP in such areas which got irrigation projects recently; and
- (f) the steps proposed to review the number of districts which should be covered under DPAP ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL):

(a) There are 181 districts in 16 States covered under Drought Prone Areas Programme(DPAP); the State wise position is as under:

Andhra Pradesh (11), Bihar (6), Chhattisgarh (8), Gujarat (14), Himachal Pradesh(3), Jammu & Kashmir (2), Jharkhand (14), Kamataka (15), Madhya Pradesh (23), Maharashtra (25), Orissa (5), Rajasthan (11), Tamil Nadu (15), Uttar Pradesh (15), Uttaranchal (7), West Bengal(4).

(b) to (f) There is no proposal under consideration to review or reduce the number of districts being covered under the programme. The basic objective of DPPA is to minimize the effect of drought on the production of crops and livestock, productivity of land, water and human resources. Programme activities are confined to watersheds of about 500 hectares each. The watersheds are selected by the States keeping in view a number of factors including availability of water. As per the Guidelines for Watershed Development 2001, applicable to DPAP, the projects under DPAP are already need based, primarily aimed at treatment of drought prone areas keeping in view the capacity of land, site-condition and local needs.