

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3851

ANSWERED ON:08.04.2003

RURAL EMPLOYMENT UNDER IWDP

A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Union Government propose to promote rural employment through wastelands development under the Integrated Wasteland Development Programme;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes implemented under the programme in the country especially in Karnataka and Maharashtra at present;

(c) the number of jobs generated/proposed to be generated thereunder in the rural areas. State-wise;

(d) the expenditure incurred on the implementation of various scheme under IWDP during the Ninth Five Year Plan period, State-wise; and

(e) the current budget allocation earmarked for the implementation of various schemes under IWDP, State-wise?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) The Department of Land Resources (DoLR) in the Ministry of Rural Development addresses the task of treating wastelands and degraded lands aimed at checking land degradation, putting such lands into productive use and increasing the availability of bio-mass specially fuel wood and fodder through implementation of the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) on watershed basis in accordance with the Guidelines for Watershed Development w.e.f. 1.4.1995. No year-wise and State-wise targets are fixed for employment generation under Watershed Development Programmes. However, watershed activities are labour intensive and the experience gained in implementation of watershed projects so far suggest that about 60% of the expenditure in the execution of watershed projects are towards wage employment. A total number of 23 watershed projects covering an area of 2.34 lakh ha. in Karnataka and 20 watershed projects covering an area of 2.13 lakh ha. in Maharashtra have been sanctioned under IWDP from 1995-96 to 2002-03.

(d) The details of funds released under IWDP during the Ninth Five Year Plan period.State-wise are contained in the enclosed Statement.

(e) IWDP is a demand driven scheme and no State-wise allocation of funds is made under this scheme, During 2003-04, an amount of Rs. 275.00 crore has been earmarked for implementation of IWDP projects.