

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3822  
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2005  
SCHEMES FOR BETTER USE OF LAND AND WATER  
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is giving priority to policies for better utilization of land and water to increase growth in agricultural sector;
- (b) if so, the details of schemes/policies framed by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) the result achieved therefrom?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): The Government of India has formulated National Agriculture Policy and National Water Policy for better utilization of land and water for increasing growth in agriculture sector. The policy seeks to promote technically sound, economically viable, environmentally non-degrading, and socially acceptable use of country's natural resources i.e. land, water and genetic endowment to promote sustainable development of agriculture. Major schemes being implemented by Government are:

- 1) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA)
- 2) Soil conservation for Enhancing the Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project & Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR)
- 3) Watershed Development Project for Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA)
- 4) Reclamation of Alkali Soils (RAS)
- 5) Drought Prone area Programme (DPAP)
- 6) Desert Development Programme (DDP)
- 7) Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP)
- 8) Acceleration Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP)
- 9) Command Area Development Programme (CAD)
- 10) National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies Directly Linked to Agriculture.

(c): An area of 28.5 million hectare has been developed under various Watershed Development Programmes up to 2004-05. Irrigation potential has been created to cover 93.95 million hectare through major, medium and minor irrigation projects up to the end of IX Plan.