

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:325  
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2010  
DEVELOPMENT OF WASTELAND  
Ganpatrao Shri Jadhav Prataprao

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

- (a) the total area of wasteland in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the programmes/schemes formulated and under implementation to reclaim such wasteland;
- (c) the source of funding such programmes/ schemes alongwith the investment already made in this regard upto the financial year 2009-10;
- (d) the details of employment generated during the last three years and the current year by way of developing wasteland; and
- (e) the steps to be taken to further improve/expedite the process of reclamation of such land?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(Dr. C.P. JOSHI)

(a) The State-wise details of wastelands (waste & barren) is enclosed as Annexure-I. The figures are based on Wastelands Atlas of India 2005 published by National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad.

(b) The Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development has been implementing three area development programmes viz. Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) since 1995 on watershed basis. The above three programmes have been merged into a single programme i.e. Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) w.e.f. 26.02.2009.

(c) These programmes are funded jointly by the State Governments and the Central Government. In respect of IWDP, DPAP, DDP and IWMP schemes, the central share is 92%, 75%, 75% and 90 %, respectively. The balance is the State share. The release of central share under these programmes from 1995-96 till 2009-10 is as follows:

IWDP : Rs. 3934.29 crore  
DPAP : Rs. 3690.60 crore  
DDP : Rs. 2803.35 crore  
IWMP : Rs. 562.83 crore

(d) As per the information received from the State Governments, employment generated during the period is 46.49 crore mandays.

(e) The steps taken to further improve/ expedite the process of development of rainfed areas including wastelands include the provision of treatment of micro-watersheds on cluster basis, reduced number of installments, delegation of power of sanction of projects to the States, dedicated institutions, capacity building of stakeholders, monitoring & evaluation, specific budget provision for detailed project report preparation and livelihood component.