

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3676
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2010
DESERT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the areas in hectares identified as desert in each State of the country including Gujarat, location-wise;
- (b) the details of the measures taken to conserve land, water, cattle wealth and to preserve ecological balance under Desert Development Programme (DDP) alongwith achievements made thereunder so far, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of the works to be undertaken under DDP in each State during the current year?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI)

(a) The State-wise details of areas identified under Desert Development Programme (DDP) in the country including Gujarat State are given in Annexure-I.

(b) Under DDP following main activities are taken up to conserve land, water, cattle wealth etc. to preserve ecological balance:

- i) Afforestation including plantation, agro-forestry and horticultural development, shelter-belt plantation, sand dunes stabilization.
- ii) Land development including in-situ soil and moisture conservation.
- iii) Development of water harvesting structures.
- iv) Renovation and augmentation of water resources, desiltation of tanks for drinking/irrigation purpose.
- v) Pasture development.

The State-wise area covered under DDP so far is as under:

S.No.	State	Area covered (in lakh ha.)
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1	Andhra Pradesh	4.52
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2	Gujarat	13.94
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3	Haryana	4.72
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4	Himachal Pradesh	1.65
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5	Jammu & Kashmir	2.66
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6	Karnataka	6.33
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7	Rajasthan	31.70
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Total		65.53
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(c) During the current year, the works to be undertaken are soil-moisture conservation, construction of water harvesting structures, afforestation, sand-dune stabilization, horticultural plantation, pasture development.