

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:528

ANSWERED ON:03.05.2010

MANAGEMENT OF WASTELAND PROGRAMMES

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba; Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that different programmes for the management of wasteland and degraded land are being implemented by various departments/authorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to synergise the various programmes for the management of wasteland and degraded land in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No.528 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 03-05-2010

(a) & (b): The details of department-wise programmes implemented for development of rainfed / degraded areas including wastelands are given at Annexure-A.

(c) & (d): In order to have a unified perspective by all Ministries, the National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) in coordination with the Planning Commission prepared Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects, 2008. These guidelines have been approved by the Governing Board of the NRAA and made effective from 01-04-2008. The Common Guidelines are applicable to all watershed development projects in all Departments/Ministries of Government of India concerned with Watershed Development Projects.

Accordingly, Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) of the Department of Land Resources have been integrated into a single modified programme called Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP). The IWMP was approved by the Cabinet on 26-02-2009.

As per the Common Guidelines, 2008, a dedicated institution at State level viz State Level Nodal Agency (SLNA) comprising of representatives of State Government departments of rural development, agriculture, animal husbandry and allied sectors alongwith ground water board, voluntary organizations, experts from research institutes has been set up in all States to bring in synergy in implementation of watershed programmes.