

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:949

ANSWERED ON:10.07.2009

ALLOCATION FOR WATERSHED PROJECTS

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of prevailing programmes for taking up watershed projects in the country and structure of such programmes;
- (b) the funds allocated, utilized and achievements made thereunder during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to restructure these programmes and increase the financial allocation for taking up watershed projects;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the involvement of private sector has been sought in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) The Department of Land Resources (DoLR) has been implementing three Centrally Sponsored area development programmes namely Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) on watershed basis as per Haryali Guidelines. The projects are being implemented at the rate of Rs.6000/- per hectare by the Panchayati Raj Institutions with project duration of 5 years. The funding is shared between the Centre and the States in the ratio of 75:25 for DPAP and DDP and 11:1 for IWDP.

(b) The watershed programmes implemented by the DoLR are demand driven and no allocation is made to the States. The State wise funds released, number of projects sanctioned and number of projects completed during last three years are given at Annexure-I.

(c) to (f) The three programmes of DPAP, DDP and IWDP of the Department of Land Resources have now been consolidated into a single programme called Integrated Watershed Management Programme(IWMP). The modified scheme of IWMP is based on Common Guidelines for Development of Watershed Projects, 2008. The scheme has been approved by the Government on 26.2.2009. Under IWMP, the projects will be implemented by dedicated institutions at the State and District level. At village level, the projects will be implemented by the Watershed Committee under the overall supervision of Gram Sabha/Gram Panchayat. The cost per hectare has been revised to Rs. 15,000 per Ha. for the hilly and difficult areas and Rs. 12,000 per Ha. for other areas. This cost will be shared between the Centre and States in the ratio of 90: 10. The project duration has been made flexible from 4 to 7 years. The components of livelihoods for the landless and production systems and micro-enterprises have been added in the programme. For the 11th Plan, an outlay of Rs. 15,359 crores has been provided for the watershed programme as against the outlay of Rs. 4400 crores during 10th Plan. Voluntary Organizations can also be involved as Project Implementing Agency (PIA) in the implementation of IWMP projects as per the Common Guidelines for Development of Watershed Projects 2008.