

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:257
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010
SOIL EROSION AND LAND DEGRADATION
Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the total geographical areas affected by soil erosion and land degradation, State-wise;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to check the same during the last three years; and
- (c) the achievements made by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): As per the study conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), about 146.82 million ha. of geographical area is affected by various types of soil erosion and land degradation. The State-wise details are annexed.

(b) & (c): With a view to prevent soil erosion and land degradation, Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing various Watershed Development Programmes, namely; National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR), Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR), Reclamation and Development of Alkali & Acid Soils (RADAS) and Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) across the country. Under these programmes, during last three years (2007-08 to 2009-10), an area of 1.96 million ha. has been developed with a total expenditure of Rs.1685.08 crore.