

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5462

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2010

IMPLEMENTATION OF DROUGHT PRONE AREA PROGRAMME

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any representation from the State Governments regarding inclusion of some more districts under Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) the funds allocated/proposed to be allocated for DPAP implementation during the current financial year and the Eleventh Five Year Plan respectively, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) &(c) A request from the Govt. of Maharashtra was received in November 2007 to include Latur Taluka of Latur District and Phaltan Taluka of Satara District under identified blocks of Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP). The matter was examined in the Ministry and the State was inter alia informed as below:

From 1995-96 onwards, DPAP is being implemented in DPAP blocks identified by the Prof. Hanumantha Rao Committee. Since then, the Department of Land Resources has neither excluded any identified block nor included any new block to the programme.

Now the three programmes, namely DPAP, Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) have been integrated & consolidated into a single programme called Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) for optimum use of resources, sustainable outcomes and integrated planning. The Common Guidelines, 2008 for the Watershed Development Projects have also been finalized and are effective from 01.04.2008.

Accordingly, the inclusion of Latur Taluka and Phaltan Taluka under identified blocks of DPAP may not be possible in isolation. However, since these blocks appear to be drought affected, they shall be considered for sanction of new watershed projects under IWMP.

(d) Since DPAP is a demand driven programme, no state-wise allocation of funds have been made. No new DPAP projects have been sanctioned during Eleventh Plan. However, the State-wise funds released for implementation of ongoing DPAP projects during the last three years and the current financial year of Eleventh Five Year Plan are given at Annexure-I.