

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1492  
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2011  
MANAGEMENT OF LAND RESOURCES  
Premajibhai Dr. Solanki Kiritbhai

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the names of the bodies set up by the Government for the development, conservation and management of land resources in the country and the details of works undertaken by them;
- (b) whether the Government has evaluated the performance of these bodies; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a): National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) has been set up as an Expert Body to provide scientific knowledge for development and management of country's land resources, especially for Dryland and rainfed areas across the country. NRAA presently attached to Planning Commission is an advisory, policy making and monitoring body entrusted with role of examining guidelines of various existing schemes and in the formulation of new schemes including all externally aided projects. Its mandate is to address all aspects of sustainable and holistic development of rainfed areas, including appropriate farming and livelihood system approaches. NRAA has brought out Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects (CGWDP) with fresh framework for next generation watershed programmes. As envisaged in CGWDP, Government of India is implementing various watershed development programmes, namely National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA), Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR), Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Area (WDPSCA) and Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) for conservation, development and management of natural resources for enhancing agricultural productivity and production in a sustainable manner across the country. Besides, NRAA has prepared several technical documents viz "Rainfed Livelihoods: Progressive Paradigms" " Harnessing Opportunities in Rainfed Areas-A Pathway to Prosperity Vision 2025" and "Drought Management Strategies, 2009" and circulated to all State Governments for follow up action.

(b) & (c): No, Madam.