

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2435
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2011
POOR CONDITION OF DDP AREAS
Meghwal Shri Bharat Ram

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is aware of the scarcity of water in the Desert Development Programme (DDP) areas as compared to the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) areas; and
- (b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to check desertification and provide sustainable water supply to DDP areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES & MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

- (a) As per the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, which is concerned with the implementation of the DDP and DPAP, no survey about the scarcity of water in DDP/DPAP areas has been undertaken.
- (b) The Department of Land Resources has integrated the DDP and DPAP with integrated Wasteland Development Programme into a single modified programme called Integrated Watershed Management Programme with effect from 26 February 2009. The main aims of the Integrated Watershed Management Programme are harnessing, conserving and developing degraded natural resources such as soil, vegetative cover and water; prevention of soil run-off; rainwater harvesting and recharging of the ground water table; increasing the productivity of crops; introduction of multi-cropping and diverse agro-based activities; promoting sustainable livelihoods and increasing the household incomes.