

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2425
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2011
INTEGRATED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has modified the Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of funds allocated and utilized under IWMP during each of the last three years;
- (d) the details of the wasteland in the country, State-wise; and
- (e) the extent to which Schemes implemented for development of such land have been proved to be beneficial in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Department of Land Resources has been implementing three area development schemes viz., Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) on watershed basis since 1995-96. These three schemes have been integrated and consolidated into a single modified programme called Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) with effect from 26.02.2009 to be implemented under the Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects, 2008. The unit cost norm under IWMP is Rs. 15,000 per ha for hilly and difficult areas and Rs. 12,000 per ha for other areas, to be shared between the Centre and State in the ratio of 90 : 10.

There has been necessity in changing some of the provisions in the guidelines based on experience and suggestions of the State Governments and accordingly necessary changes have been carried out. The Comprehensive list of amendments made in the Common Guidelines for Watershed Projects, 2008 is at Annexure-I. Further, the Department of Land Resources, with the approval of the Empowered Group of Officers to suggest measures for Accelerated Development of Left Wing Extremism affected areas, has allowed the flexibility of cost norms upto Rs. 15,000 per ha for IWMP in Integrated Action Plan districts based on adequate justification by State Level Nodal Agencies for IWMP.

(c) The details of fund allocated and utilised under IWMP, by the Department of Land Resources, during last three years are as below:

(Rs in Crore)

Year	Allocation	Utilisation
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2008-09	1,545.00	1,594.40
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2009-10	1,762.98	1,762.65
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2010-11	2,458.00	2,456.73
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(d) According to the Wasteland Atlas of India, 2010 brought out by Department of Land Resources, in collaboration with National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Hyderabad, the extent of wasteland in the country is estimated to be 47.23 million hectares. The category-wise and State-wise details are at Annexure-II.

(e) The projects under IWMP are being sanctioned from September 2009 and these projects are in Preparatory Phase only, wherein preparation of Detailed Project Report, entry point activities and capacity building activities are being undertaken. Hence, the project outcomes are yet to be assessed. However, evaluation and impact assessment studies of pre-IWMP watershed development

projects have been undertaken by the Department of Land Resources through various agencies like TERI, ICRISAT, NIRD, etc. The major findings of some of these reports are at Annexure-III.