

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:475

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2011

BARREN LAND DEVELOPMENT

Harnsrajbhai Shri Radadiya Vitthalbhai ;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government is running a barren land development programme in the country including in Gujarat, under the scheme of development of non-forest barren land

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the targets fixed in this regard and the extent of achievements made, State-wise;

(d) the agencies through which these programmes are being run and the hurdles being faced by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to overcome the hurdles and the success achieved in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Rural Development is not implementing barren land development programme. However, the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development has been implementing three area development programmes viz., Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP). These three programmes have been integrated into a single modified programme called 'Integrated Watershed Management Programme' (IWMP) with effect from 26.02.2009 and extended to all States including Gujarat. The IWMP is being implemented under Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects, 2008. The main features of IWMP include provisions of development of micro-watersheds on cluster basis; reduced number of installments; delegation of power of sanction of projects to the States; dedicated institutions; capacity building of stakeholders; specific budget provision for detailed project report preparation; livelihood for assetless people; and productivity enhancement, monitoring & evaluation.

(c) : The target for sanction of area for new projects under IWMP and achievements during the years 2009-10, 2010-11 & 2011-12 (as on 31.10.2011), in the country, are as follows:

Area in million.ha.

Year	Target	Achievement
(Area sanctioned)		

2009-10	5.41	6.310
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2010-11	8.51	8.824
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2011-12	8.739	4.771
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Total	22.659	19.905
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State-wise and year-wise target and achievement (area sanctioned) are at Annexure-I.

(d) & (e) : The IWMP is being implemented through dedicated institutions in the State & District Level i.e. State Level Nodal Agency (SLNA) and District Watershed Cell cum Data Centre (WCDC) notified in the different nodal Departments of have been notified is enclosed at Annexure-II. There has been necessity in changing some of the provisions in the Common Guidelines for Watershed

Development Projects, 2008 based on experience and suggestions of the State Governments and accordingly necessary changes have been carried out and difficulties overcome for successful implementation of the programme.