

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3146

ANSWERED ON:30.08.2012

INTEGRATED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh;Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Shri Yashvir

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently conducted a survey to ascertain the area of barren land in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof. State-wise;
- (c) the details of the achievements of watershed programmes during the last three years and the current year.State-wise;
- (d) whether inflated data has been shown for development of barren land;
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No specific survey has been conducted to ascertain the area of barren land in the country by Department of Land Resources. However, as per the information of the Department of Agriculture & Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture, total area of barren & unculturable land is about 16.79 million ha. in the country. State-wise details of barren & unculturable land is at Annexure-I.

The Department of Land Resources, in collaboration with National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Hyderabad has brought out the Wastelands Atlas of India, 2011. According to this Atlas, the extent of wasteland in the country is estimated to be 46.702 million hectares including 11.766 million ha. barren rocky/stony waste/snow covered/glacial areas. The State-wise details are given at Annexure-H.

(c): The Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) is being implemented from 2009-10. Since then, a total of 5,087 projects covering an area of 24.213 million ha. have been sanctioned under IWMP. The project period of these projects is 4 to 7 years. At present, most of these projects are under preparatory phase of implementation.The State-wise details of projects sanctioned, area covered and central funds released during last three years and the current year are given at Annexure - III.

(d): No Madam.

(e) & (f): Does not arise.