

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2121
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2012
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAMMES
Satpathy Shri Tathagata

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an increase in productivity in the Vidarbha (Maharashtra) region after the implementation of watershed management schemes during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the sites are decided on the basis of certain criteria;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA)

(a) & (b): As per the information furnished by the State Government of Maharashtra, 156 projects covering an area of 6.70 lakh ha. with a project cost of Rs. 804.59 crores have been sanctioned in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra under Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) during the last three years. IWMP projects are being implemented as per Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects, 2008 (revised edition 2011) over a period of 4 to 7 years. The details of projects sanctioned in Vidarbha region are as below :

Sl.No.	Year	No. of Projects	Area	Project Cost	Funds	Expenditure
		Sanctioned	(in ha.)	(Rs.in Lakh)	Released	(Rs.in Lakh)
		(Rs.in Lakh)	upto October,			2012

1	2009-10	33	146283	17554	3840.70	1280.02
	(Batch-I)					

2	2010-11	100	434084	52090	6309.50	1098.37
	(Batch-II)					

3	2011-12	23	90128	10815	696.36	10.82
	(Batch-III)					

Total	156	670495	80459	10846.56	2389.21	
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As per the Guidelines, the IWMP projects are implemented in three phases viz. preparatory phase, works phase and consolidation & withdrawal phase. At present, Batch- I projects are in works phase except 4 projects of Gadchiroli district. Batch -II projects are about to complete preparatory phase and Batch- III projects are in preparatory phase. The impact of watershed management projects including change in productivity can be visualized towards the completion of projects.

(c) to (e): Under IWMP, project areas are selected by States based on criteria prescribed by the Department of Land Resources. The

criteria for selection of project areas inter alia include moisture index, area under rain-fed agriculture, degraded land, ground water status, drinking water, % of small and marginal farmers, % of SC/ ST population, contiguity and cluster approach.