

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6476
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013
DRYLAND FARMING
Singh Shri Radha Mohan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the measures being taken by the Government to raise agricultural production on dry land of the country;
- (b) whether the Government has adopted the recommendations of the Parth Sarathi Committee report in this regard;
- (c) if so, the action taken on the recommendations of this report; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to bring maximum agricultural land under irrigation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) to (d): Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) is implementing a sub-scheme "Rainfed Area Development Programme (RADP)" under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to address specific concerns of rainfed/dryland farmers. Besides, all major development programmes of MoA, viz., National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI) etc. give special focus to dryland/rainfed areas. Research Projects on dryland agriculture are also being implemented by Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) for enhancing agriculture production and productivity in these areas.

Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) is implementing the Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) for development of rainfed and degraded areas of the country. MoRD had constituted the Parthasarathy Committee and based on the suggestions of the Committee, National Rainfed Area Authority, in coordination with the Planning Commission, formulated Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects, 2008 to give an impetus to watershed development programmes. MoRD has implemented main recommendations of the Technical Committee by integrating the three area development programmes namely Desert Development Programme (DDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) – into a single modified programme called Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) with effect from 26.02.2009. The WMP is implemented under the Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects, 2008.