

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2858  
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2009  
GENERATION OF EMPLOYMENT FROM WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT  
Patel Shri R.K. Singh

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

- (a) Whether the Government generates employment through wasteland development schemes/ programmes; and
- (b) If so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Department of Land Resources has been implementing three area development programmes viz., Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) since 1995 on watershed basis. The basic objectives of these programmes are to develop wastelands by treatment of non-forest wastelands, mitigation of adverse effects of drought and combating desertification respectively. One of the objectives of these programmes is employment generation. The major land based activities in which the employment is generated are soil and moisture conservation works, water harvesting, afforestation, pasture development and horticulture and about 4/5th of the project cost is utilized for these activities.