

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3925
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2009
INTEGRATED WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any Atlas has been prepared by National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA), Hyderabad about the waste land in the country after 2005;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the steps taken by the Government to utilize the waste, barren and degraded lands and service land has shown any encouraging results;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the details of proposals received under Integrated Wasteland Development Programme(IWDP) and number of projects sanctioned during 2008-09 and 2009-10 under this scheme;and
- (f) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to release more funds to cover more such land for development purpose?

Answer

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

- (a) No Sir.
- (b) Question does not arise.
- (c) Yes Sir.
- (d) The impact assessment studies conducted have shown overall improvement in land use and ground water table, decrease in soil run-off, expansion in irrigated area, increase in cropping intensity and agricultural productivity, greater fuel wood and fodder availability.
- (e)& (f): New projects were not sanctioned during 2008-09. A new set of guidelines called Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects,2008 came into force w.e.f. 01.04.2008.Based on the Common Guidelines, a comprehensive programme called Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) was developed by merging the erstwhile Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP). The number of projects sanctioned, area covered and Central funds released under Integrated Watershed Management Programme during 2009-10 is annexed.