

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6869

ANSWERED ON:07.05.2015

ACTIVITIES UNDER IWDP

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

- (a) the details of the major activities undertaken under the Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) and the States/UTs where the programme is under implementation at present;
- (b) the details of the projects implemented and the areas of wasteland brought under cultivation during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the funds sanctioned/released and utilised under the Programme during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for effective implementation of the programme particularly in the coastal areas of the country; and
- (e) the area of wasteland targeted for developing as arable during the next three years and the name of agencies assisting the work, State/UT-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) & (b) The Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) was implemented in all the 28 States of the country. No new projects under IWDP were sanctioned since 2007-08. However, the funds had been released till 31.03.2014 for completion of ongoing IWDP projects sanctioned up to 2006-07. The State-wise details of the projects sanctioned and area covered under IWDP are at Annexure-I.

The major activities taken up under Integrated Wastelands Development

Programme (IWDP) inter-alia, include the following:

- i. Development of small water harvesting structures such as low-cost farm ponds, nalla bunds, check-dams, percolation tanks and other ground water recharge measures.
- ii. Renovation and augmentation of water sources, desiltation of village tanks for drinking water/ irrigation/fisheries development.
- iii. Fisheries development in village ponds/tanks, farm ponds etc.
- iv. Afforestation including block plantations, agro-forestry and horticultural development, shelterbelt plantations, sand dune stabilization, etc.
- v. Pasture development either by itself or in conjunction with plantations.
- vi. Land Development including in-situ soil and moisture conservation measures like contour and graded bunds fortified by plantation, bench terracing in hilly terrain, nursery raising for fodder, timber, fuel wood, horticulture and non-timber forest product species.
- vii. Drainage line treatment with a combination of vegetative and engineering structures.
- viii. Repair, restoration and up-gradation of existing common property assets and structures in the watershed to obtain optimum Sc sustained benefits from previous public investments.
- ix. Crop demonstrations for popularizing new crops/varieties or innovative management practices.
- x. Promotion and propagation of non-conventional energy saving devices, energy conservation measures, bio fuel plantations etc.

In order to understand the dynamics of wastelands through comparison of spatial statistics, a project on Wasteland Change Analysis between 2005-06 and 2008-09 had been assigned to National Remote Sensing Centre, Hyderabad by the Department of Land

Resources. The findings of the project have been published as Wastelands Atlas of India 2011. As per the Wastelands Atlas of India-2011, the total area of wasteland that has been reduced and put to productive use from 2005-06 to 2008-09 is 5240.78 sq. kms. The State/UT wise details are at Annexure -II.

(a) State-wise details of central funds released and utilized under IWDP during the last three years and the current year are at Annexure-III.

(b) & (e) Does not arise as Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) is no longer under implementation.