

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6170  
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2015  
SURVEY UNDER DROUGHT PRONE AREA PROGRAMME  
Simha Shri Prathap

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

- (a) The details of the last survey conducted under the Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) along with its date;
- (b) The details of the districts identified as drought-prone in the country including Karnataka, State/ UT-wise; and
- (c) The steps taken by the Government for development of such areas?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) In 1994, a High-Level Technical Committee headed by Professor CH. Hanumantha Rao identified the Blocks that are eligible for coverage under the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP).

(b) A total of 972 Blocks in 195 Districts of 17 States covering an area of 74.5914 m. ha including Karnataka has been identified for coverage under DPAP. The State wise details are given at Annexure.

(c) The Department of Land Resources had been implementing three area development programmes namely Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) on watershed basis since 1995-96. These three programmes have been integrated and consolidated into a single modified programme called Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) and launched in 2009-10 for the development of rainfed and degraded areas in all States and UTs. The projects under IWMP are selected based upon certain criteria for prioritization. While sanctioning of the projects due weightage is given to the identified Drought Prone areas and it is one of the main criteria for allocation of areas for the treatment under the IWMP. The major activities undertaken under IWMP since its inception in 2009-10 inter alia include preparation of Detailed Project Reports, institution and capacity building, entry point activities, ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rain water harvesting, nursery raising, afforestation, horticulture, pasture development, livelihood activities for the asset-less persons and production system & micro enterprises for small and marginal farmers.

Under IWMP, a total of 8214 projects covering an area of 39.069 m. ha have been sanctioned and Central Share of Rs.1,032.20 crore have been released to the states for implementation of these projects (as on 31.03.2015). IWMP has now been converted as the Watershed Component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayi Yojana (PMKSY).