## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4979
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2015
INTEGRATED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

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

- (a) the details of funds allocated and utilised under the Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the percentage of funds that has been directed towards treatment of forest areas which have been earmarked as critical for administration of the Programme;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in drought prone areas for watershed development programme;
- (d) the funds sanctioned and funds utilized for such projects; and
- (e) the details of the trained people for executing these programmes and the number of persons trained in this regard, State/UT-wise?

## **Answer**

## MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

- (a) to (d): The Department of Land Resources integrated the three area development programmes viz., Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (WDP) into a single modified programme called 'Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP)' with effect from 26.02.2009. Under IWMP, no funds have been exclusively earmarked for treatment of forest areas. However, the Department of Land Resources is providing central funds for treatment of forest areas which are prioritized as integral part of the IWMP projects on the criteria laid down for the purpose. 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 treatment under IWMP. The details of funds released and utilised under IWMP during each of the last three years and the current year is at Annexure.
- (e) As per the IWMP Guidelines, experts/ professionals are engaged at various levels for implementation of the programme. At the State level, 4 to 7 experts and at the district level 3 to 6 experts are engaged. These experts are in the fields of Agriculture, Water Management, Capacity Building, Social Mobilisation and Information Technology. The Watershed Development Team (WDT) consisting of four members from the field of Agriculture, Soil Science, Water Management, Institutional Building and Social Mobilisation, are provided at project level. The guidelines of the programme provides for utilisation of 5% of project cost for institution and capacity building of all stakeholders under IWMP. The experts engaged are given induction training in the beginning and short duration refresher trainings as per the need during implementation. In addition, at village level, the Watershed Committee members and Self Help Group (SHG) members are also trained in the relevant field.