

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3054  
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2014  
SURVEY ON WASTE LAND  
Gaddigoudar Shri Parvatagouda Chandanagouda

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

- (a) the extent of waste land in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether any survey has been conducted to identify waste land in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (d) the details of the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the development of waste lands?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

(a) to (c) The Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development had assigned a project to National Remote Sensing Centre, Hyderabad to understand the changes in wastelands in the country. 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 wastelands in the country is 467021.16 square kilometres. The State / UT wise details of the wastelands are given in Annexure.

(d) The Department of Land Resources has been implementing an area development programme called Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) since 2009-10, for development of rainfed/ degraded areas including wastelands in the country. The major activities taken up under IWMP inter alia include ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rain water harvesting, nursery raising, afforestation, horticulture, pasture development, livelihoods for asset-less persons.