

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5177
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2014
INTEGRATED WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Gaddigoudar Shri Parvatagouda Chandanagouda

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the detailed features of the Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP);
- (b) whether certain States have requested the Government to bring development programmes relating to all kinds of land including wasteland under a single Ministry;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

(a) The detailed features of the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) were as under:

- i. The projects under IWDP were sanctioned in watershed areas having acute shortage of drinking water, large population of scheduled castes/scheduled tribes dependent on it, preponderance of non-forest wastelands/degraded lands and preponderance of common lands.
- ii. IWDP was not implemented in the blocks which were covered by Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP).
- iii. The cost norm under IWDP was revised from Rs. 4000 per hectare to Rs. 6000 per hectare for the projects sanctioned since 01.04.2000. Funding pattern of the projects between the Centre and State was Rs. 5500 and Rs. 500 per hectare respectively.
- iv. Average size of watershed project under IWDP was 5000 hectare.

(b) to (d) The Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development constituted a Technical Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Parthasarathy in 2005 to address major issues in watershed programmes and to recommend viable strategies & mechanism for effective implementation of these programmes. The Committee after extensive consultations with the States submitted its report in 2006. As per the report of the Committee, many State Governments expressed their concerns for merging different watershed programmes and implementation of the same by a single nodal Ministry.

Based on the suggestions of the Committee, National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA), in coordination with Planning Commission, formulated Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects, 2008 to give an impetus to watershed development programmes. The provisions in the Common Guidelines and the observations of the Parthasarathy Committee had necessitated modifications in the watershed schemes of the Department of Land Resources. Accordingly, DPAP, DDP and IWDP of the Department of Land Resources have been integrated and consolidated into a single modified programme called Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) w.e.f. 26.02.2009 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 assetless persons, production system and microenterprises.