

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:261  
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2014  
INTEGRATED WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME  
Adsul Shri Anandrao ;Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao

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

- (a) whether some difficulties have been reported in the implementation of the Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP), if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the quantum of funds released and utilised by various States under IWDP during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) the reasons for under-utilisation of funds and the success achieved under the Programme; and
- (d) the mechanism put in place for effective implementation of IWDP in the country ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BIRENDER SINGH)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No 261 due for reply on 11.12.2014

(a) to (d): Yes Madam. The main difficulties faced in implementation of the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) were, inter alia, lack of dedicated institutions with adequate professional support at various levels, insufficient cost per hectare, delay in implementation of projects, an inadequate monitoring system, lack of scientific planning etc. However during 2008-09, the IWDP along with two other area development programmes viz., Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), were consolidated and integrated into a single modified programme called the Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) with effect from 26.02.2009 which is being implemented as per the Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects-2008 (revised edition-2011). The Common Guidelines addressing the concerns of the previous programmes provide for setting up of dedicated institutions at each level, revision in cost norms, increase in project period upto 7 years and decrease in no. of installments during the project period, scientific planning, better monitoring and evaluation systems, etc.

No new IWDP projects were sanctioned w.e.f 01.04.2007. However, funds were released under IWDP up to 31.03.2014 for completion of ongoing projects sanctioned up to 2006-07. The quantum of funds released and utilized by various States under IWDP during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise is at Annexure. Thus, during the last three years Rs. 289.37 crore was released under IWDP and Rs. 491.72 crore was utilized which includes unspent balance of previous years, State Share and miscellaneous receipt. Further, Rs. 57.78 crore remains unutilized as on 31.10.2014. During the last three years, 471 projects covering an area of 20.79 lakh hectare have been completed under IWDP.