

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATI RAJ

(2022-2023)

30

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

**MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(DEPARTMENT OF LAND RESOURCES)**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(2023-24)**

THIRTIETH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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(DEPARTMENT OF LAND RESOURCES)

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(2023-24)

Presented to Lok Sabha on 14.03.2023

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 15.03.2023



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

March, 2023/Phalguna, 1944 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
PANCHAYATI RAJ**

(2022-2023)

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1. Shri D.R. Shekhar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri C. Kalyanasundaram - Director
3. Shri Atul Singh - Assistant Executive Officer

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson (Acting) of the Standing Committee on Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (2022-2023) having been authorised by the Committee [as per Rule 277(3) of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha] to submit the Report on their behalf, present the Thirtieth Report on Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Land Resources).

2. Demands for Grants have been examined by the Committee under Rule 331E (1) (a) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

3. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development) on 09 February, 2023.

4. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 13 March, 2023.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officials of the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Land Resources) for placing before them the requisite material and their considered views in connection with the examination of the subject.

6. The Committee would also like to place on record their deep sense of appreciation for the invaluable assistance rendered to them by the officials of Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

NEW DELHI;
13 March, 2023
22 Phalguna, 1944 (Saka)

NARANBHAI J. RATHWA
Chairperson (Acting),
Standing Committee on Rural Development
& Panchayati Raj

REPORT**PART I
NARRATION ANALYSIS****Chapter I****(a) Introductory**

Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj is one of the sixteen Departmentally Related Standing Committees of the Lok Sabha primarily entrusted with the mandatory task of examination of Demands for Grants for each financial year sought by the Ministry/Department under its purview while also scrutinizing the schemes under the administrative control of the concerned Ministry/ Department. The present Report is on the examination of the Demands for Grants of the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development) for the ensuing financial year 2023-24 under Rule 331E(1)(a) of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

(b) Role of Department of Land Resources

The main objective of Department of Land Resources (DoLR), are: (i) to increase productivity of rainfed/degraded land to the process of integrated watershed management, (ii) to support States/ UTs for implementation of Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) with the aim to achieve a comprehensive land governance system known as Integrated Land Information Management System and (iii) to administer land reforms and other related matters relating to land such as administration of the Right to Fair Land Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (RFCTLARR), the Registration Act, 1908 and National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy (NRRP) of 2007, etc. Currently, the Department of Land Resources is implementing two Schemes/ Programs:

(i) Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY)

(ii) Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP).

The Detailed Demands for Grants of the Department Of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development) for the financial year (2023-2024) were laid in Lok Sabha on 07th February, 2023. An allocation of Rs. 24.19 Crore has been made in the Budget Estimates (BE) of Demand No. 88 for the year 2023-24. This allocation is 7% more than BE for BE of 2022-23 and 92% more than RE of 2022-23.

The Committee have examined, in-depth, the Demands for Grants of the Department Of Land Resources for the financial year 2023-24 and the same is deliberated in succeeding Chapters of the Report. The Observations / Recommendations of the Committee have been given at the end of the Report. The Committee expect the Ministry to take all necessary steps for proper and timely utilization of funds ensuring completion of the various schemes and projects in a time bound manner. The Committee expect the Department to take all necessary steps for progress and timely utilization of funds ensuring implementation of it's and projects in a time bound manner. The Committee expect the Department of Land Resources to take Committee's observations / recommendations positively and act on them expeditiously and furnish Action Taken Replies in respect of the Observations/Recommendations made in the Report within three months from the date of presentation of this Report.

CHAPTER II

Examination of Demands for Grants (2023-24)

(a) Overall Fund Allocation

(Rs. in Crore)

Name of the Scheme/Programme	Major Head	Budget Estimate 2022-23	Revised Estimate 2022-23	Budget Estimate 2023-24
Scheme				
1. Watershed Development Component of WDC-PMKSY				
i) Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY) 2.0	2501	41.12	14.01	34.07
	3601	1697.00	869.084	1864.23
	3602	44.00	9.532	47.49
ii) Externally Aided Project - Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agricultural Resilience through Innovative Development (REWARD)	2501	17.88	5.60	19.00
Provision for the N.E Region and Sikkim under WDC-PMKSY 2.0	2552	200.00	101.861	220.00
Sub-total (a)=		2000.00	1000.08	2200.00
2. Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP)	2506	215.33	215.33	176.17
Lumpsum Provision for the N.E Region and Sikkim under DILRMP	2552	23.92	23.92	19.58
Sub-total (b)=		239.25	239.25	195.75
Total-Schemes(a+b): (Land Resources)		2239.25	1239.33	2395.75
Non-Scheme				
3. Secretariat - Economic Service	3451	20.09	20.67	23.48
Sub-total- Non-Scheme (c)=		20.09	20.67	23.48
Grand Total(a+b+c)=		2259.34	1260.00	2419.23

From the above table, it may be seen that the Budget allocation of the Department of Land Resources (Demand No. 88) for the year 2023-24 is Rs. 2419.23 Crore which includes the total Scheme component of Rs. 2395.75 Crore and a Non-Scheme component of Rs. 23.48 Crore. It may be observed that the Scheme component of the Financial Year (FY) 2023-24 at the BE stage has been increased by Rs. 159.89 Crore over the previous BE of FY 2022-23. The allocation at the Budget Estimates (BE) stage for FY 2022-23 was Rs. 2259.34 Crore which was further reduced to Rs. 1260 Crore at the RE stage.

(b) Outlays vis-a-vis Expenditure

Statement showing percentage increase in various schemes/programmes during last 3 years are as under:-

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme/programme	2021-22		2022-23		2022-23	2023-24	
		BE	% Increase	BE	% Increase	RE	BE	BE % Increase
1	Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (Watershed Development Component)	2000.00	--	2000.00	--	1000.08	2200.00	(+)10%
2	Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP)	150.00	--	239.25	59.5%	239.25	195.75	(-)18.18%
	TOTAL PLAN	2150.00		2239.25		1239.33	2395.75	

2.2 As can be seen from the above statement, the Budgetary allocation to Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana has increased by 10% but 18.18% decrease for Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP) as compared to their previous year BE.

2.3 On being asked about the reasons for the decrease in allocation at RE stage in FY 2022-23 and increase at BE stage during for FY 2023-24 as compared to previous year's BE (2022-23) for WDC-PMKSY and the details of the plan of action to utilise the enhanced fund allocation, the Department of Land Resources (DoLR) in their written reply stated as under:-

"The continuation of WDC-PMKSY 2.0' was approved by the Government on 15th December 2021 with a Central Share allocation of Rs 8134 Crore for the period from 2021-22 to 2025-26. Projects under WDC-

PMKSY 2.0' have been sanctioned to States/UTs in the last quarter of FY 2021-22. During 2022-23, States/UTs were supposed to undertake measures to strengthen their institutions for implementation of project works. Moreover, Government has made PFMS mandatory for releasing/utilizing funds under the scheme which necessitated PFMS infrastructure to be revamped at the Department level and at States/UTs level based on the new and evolving guidelines of Ministry of Finance. Experiences show that this exercise caused delays in release of funds at the Central level and expenditure at the States/UTs level. Ministry of Finance's OM dated 31.03.2021 further stipulated that Central grants would be released in four equal tranches of 25% each, and release of the next tranche would require States/UTs to utilize atleast 75% of the previous tranche. As mentioned above, the Department made releases in last quarter of FY 2021-22 only, and as the scheme was in its preliminary stage, States/UTs faced challenges in claiming the Central grant. Many States/UTs could receive the Central share released in FY 2021-22 along with matching States' share in mid 2022-23 as well. Further, at least a time period of 4-6 months is required for preparation of quality DPRs which is prerequisite for starting of field works and reaching the stage of Natural Resources Management (NRM) work phase. It is relevant to mention that major resource requirement is in the work phase. Now, most of the States/UTs have reached to the stage of NRM, therefore, it is expected that pace of physical and financial achievement would get momentum in near future. As per the new Scheme Guidelines, the project period stands at 3-5 years and accordingly, the allocation of Central grants was made maximum for 5 years. The year-wise allocation in percentage terms stood 25% for initial three years, 15% for fourth year, and remaining 10% for the last year. As per the Cabinet note of the Scheme, outlay of Central share for WDC-PMKSY for the period of 15th Finance Commission (FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26) for FY 2023-24 has been kept at Rs 2200 Crore. Therefore, the proposed fund requirement for FY 2023-24 is consistent with the Cabinet Note and Scheme Guidelines. The FY 2023-24 will be the 2nd/3rd year of the project implementation under WDC-PMKSY 2.0 and implementation of scheme by States/UTs would be in a full swing. This will augment the expenditure under the scheme at desirable pace, thereby, facilitating effective utilization of allocated funds for the FY 2023-24. However, it is pertinent to mention that BE and RE in a financial year are firmed up as part of the overall budgetary exercise. Status of utilization of amount of RE 2022-23 as on date is Rs 505.58 Crore, and release of Rs. 345.22 Crore is at an advance stage. Therefore, by end of January 2023, expected utilization of RE amount would be approximately 85% of RE allocation.

2.4 With regard to the decrease of Rs. 43.50 Crore (18.18%) in the fund allocated to DILRMP at BE stage of 2023-24 as compared to previous year, the DoLR in their written reply stated that:

"Department of Land Resources has proposed Rs.195.75 Crore as Budget Estimate for the FY 2023-24 under Digital India Land Record Modernization Programme (DILRMP). During the FY 2022-23, an amount of Rs.219.83 Crore have been released to States/UTs (as on January 20, 2023). States/UTs are expected to send proposals for next installments

during FY 2023-24. In addition, the Department is pursuing with States/UTs to submit proposals for fund release under two new components:

1. Consent based integration of Aadhaar number with the land record database and
2. Computerization of Revenue Courts and their integration with land records.

Further, as per approved EFC, out of Rs.875 Crore (2021-22 to 2025-26), Rs.469 Crore has already been released to States/UTs in the last two years. Remaining amount of Rs. 406 Crore will be released up in next three years upto FY 2025-26. Hence, Rs.195.75 Crore has been proposed as Budget Estimate for 2023-24."

Variations in BE/RE and actual expenditure during F/Y 2022-23

(in Crore)

Name of the Scheme/Programme	Major Head	Budget Estimate 2022-23	Revised Estimate 2022-23	Actual ** as on 17.01.2023
Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY)	2501	59.00*	19.603	14.83
	3601	1697.00	869.084	399.415
	3602	44.00	9.532	0
Sub-total (a) =		1800.00	898.219	414.245
Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP)	2506	215.33	215.33	219.99
Sub-total (b)=		215.33	215.33	219.99
Lumpsum Provision for the N.E Region and Sikkim under the Schemes				
Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY)	2552	200.00	101.861	-
Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP)	2552	23.92	23.92	-
Sub-total (c)=		223.92	125.781	-
Total-Schemes(a+b+c): (Land Resources)		2239.25	1239.33	634.235
Non-Scheme				
Secretariat - Economic Service	3451	20.09	20.67	16.60
Sub-total- Non-Scheme (d)=		20.09	20.67	16.60
Grand Total(a+b+c+d)=		2259.34	1260.00	650.835

* Including externally Aided Project Component – REWARD

**Expenditure incurred under the Head 2552 are booked through their functional Heads

2.5 Giving the reasons for variations in BE/RE and actual expenditure under the schemes the DoLR in their written reply stated that:

"WDC-PMKSY: Keeping focus on completion of the already sanctioned projects, no new projects were sanctioned from 2015-16 to 2020-21. Funds were provided for implementation of the ongoing projects; therefore, the demand of the funds were based on the requirement during this period in WDC-PMKSY 1.0. Work phase of most of projects were either completed or in advance stage of completion during 2020-21. Further, during 2021-22, the scheme period was extended upto 31.03.2022 without any fund release under WDC-PMKSY 1.0. The continuation of scheme was approved as 'WDC-PMKSY 2.0' by the Government on 15 December 2021 with Central Share allocation of Rs 8134 Crore for a period from 2021-22 to 2025-26. Projects under WDC-PMKSY 2.0 were sanctioned and the fund released thereon to the States/UTs only during the last quarter of 2021-22. However, it is pertinent to mention that Budget Estimate (BE) and RE in the financial year are firmed up as part of the overall budgetary exercise.

DILRMP: Budget Estimate (BE) in a financial year is firmed-up as part of the overall budgetary exercise. Substantial release has been made under DILRMP during last three years. During 2018-19, while conveying approval (July 2018) for extension of the scheme, it was intimated that funding pattern was changed from advance basis to reimbursement basis (however 30% advance was allowed as mobilization advance only for first instalment). This has impacted the release of funds as less number of proposals were received for release of fund from the States/UTs. However, Department of Expenditure approved the restoration of funding pattern from reimbursement basis to advance basis and also restored the components like Programme Management Unit (PMU), Survey/ re-survey and Core GIS w.e.f. 03-01-2020 due to which the Department was able to substantially utilize the allocated amount. "

CHAPTER III

Scheme-wise Analysis

A. Watershed Development Component-Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY)

Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) was amalgamated as the Watershed Development Component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY) in 2015-16. WDC-PMKSY is for development of rainfed and degraded areas. The activities being undertaken *inter alia* include ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, springshed development, rain water harvesting, nursery raising, afforestation, horticulture, pasture development, livelihoods for assetless persons, etc.

3.2 WDC-PMKSY 1.0: 6382 projects covering an area of 29.57 million hectares were funded by DoLR in 27 States (except Goa). Keeping focus on completion of all ongoing projects, no new projects under WDC-PMKSY 1.0 were sanctioned since 2015-16. The extended life-span of WDC-PMKSY 1.0 was closed on 31st March, 2022. Out of 6382 projects being funded by DoLR, 6376 (99.91%) have been reported completed, balance 6 projects have got stuck up due to some legal/administrative technicalities at State level (as on 10.01.2023).

3.3 WDC-PMKSY 2.0: The continuation of WDC-PMKSY was approved by Government on 15 December 2021 as “WDC-PMKSY 2.0” with Central Share of Rs. 8134 Cr for development of rainfed and degraded lands for a period from 2021-22 to 2025-26. The target area of WDC-PMKSY 2.0 (4.95 million ha; corresponding to the Central Share of Rs 8134 Crore) was allocated to States/UTs keeping in view the Composite Index of National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) published in their report titled —“Prioritization of Districts for Development Planning in India” 2020, and other criteria as per Guidelines with the approval of the Minister of Rural Development. The Steering Committee has appraised and sanctioned 1110 projects to 28 States and UTs (J&K and Ladakh) for approx. 4.94mha. As on 31.12.2022, Rs.1568.38 Crore Central fund has been released to States/UTs under WDC-PMKSY 2.0 by DoLR. The funding pattern between the Centre and States is 60:40, however for the North Eastern Region States & the Hilly States it is 90:10, whereas for UT of J&K and Ladakh it is 100% Central share.

(a) State-wise releases

3.4 The details of State-wise projects sanctioned & Central fund released under WDC-PMKSY 2.0 given below:

S.No.	States/UTs	No. of Projects	Area lakh ha	Project cost (Rs. In Crore)	Central share (Rs. In Crore)	Central Share Released (Rs. In Crore)(31.12.2022)
1	Andhra Pradesh	59	2.4441	563.11	337.87	45.74
2	Arunachal Pradesh	66	1.4592	408.56	367.71	58.02
3	Assam	29	1.2857	293.00	263.70	43.49
4	Bihar	34	1.6663	427.04	256.22	112.94
5	Chhattisgarh	45	2.5050	613.66	368.20	63.3
6	Gujarat	51	2.9237	687.81	412.68	25.79
7	Goa	5	0.1999	55.96	33.58	2.1
8	Haryana	9	0.3122	80.59	48.36	6.04
9	Himachal Pradesh	26	0.5400	151.20	136.08	14.94
10	Jharkhand	30	1.4800	393.53	236.12	27.28
11	Karnataka	57	2.7501	642.26	385.36	168.31
12	Kerala	6	0.2616	73.26	43.95	13.25
13	Madhya Pradesh	82	4.9467	1088.27	652.96	247.65
14	Maharashtra	144	5.6519	1335.57	801.34	50.08
15	Manipur	13	0.5869	164.33	147.90	9.24
16	Meghalaya	28	0.5473	153.24	137.92	60.8
17	Mizoram	18	0.4460	124.88	112.39	28.44
18	Nagaland	5	0.2000	56.00	50.40	26.51
19	Odisha	50	2.7851	724.02	434.41	123.18
20	Punjab	7	0.2887	80.83	48.50	8.33
21	Rajasthan	145	7.4978	1857.70	1114.62	282.56
22	Sikkim	6	0.2000	56.00	50.40	8.66
23	Tamil Nadu	27	1.3033	286.73	172.04	32.17
24	Telangana	34	1.4195	357.66	214.59	27.6
25	Tripura	13	0.2000	56.00	50.40	20.3
26	Uttar Pradesh	53	2.6396	580.71	348.43	21.78
27	Uttarakhand	12	0.7023	196.65	176.98	11.06
28	West Bengal	27	1.2920	350.60	210.36	13.15
	Union Territories					
29	Jammu & Kashmir	18	0.6783	189.92	189.92	11.87
30	Ladakh	11	0.2174	60.86	60.87	3.8
	Grand Total	1110	49.4303	12110	7864.25	1568.38

^As per the information received from States.

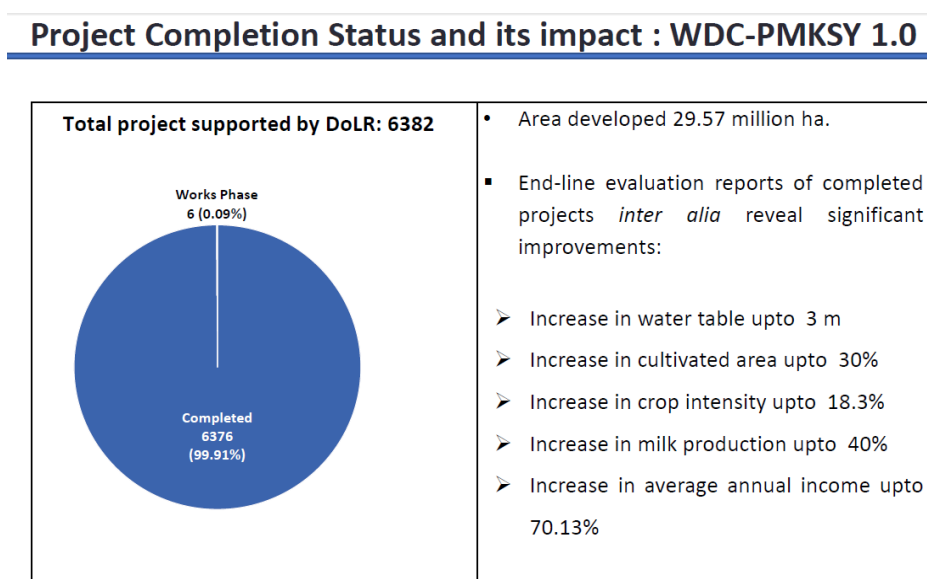
(b) Physical Progress:

3.5 Since 2015-16 to 2021-22, 6.56 lakh water harvesting structures were created / rejuvenated. An additional area of 14.54 lakh ha have been brought under protective irrigation. The number of farmers benefitted were 31.93 lakh during the said period. In addition to this, during 2018-19 and 2021-22, 1.63 lakh ha area has been brought under plantation (Afforestation/ Horticulture), 3.36 lakh ha of culturable wastelands have been treated and 388.66 lakh man days have been generated under WDC-PMKSY

3.6 When asked whether the targets are achieved under WDC-PMKSY 1.0, the Department in their written reply stated as under:

"Out of the 8214 sanctioned projects under WDC-PMKSY 1.0, 345 uninitiated projects and 1487 projects in preparatory phase were transferred to States/UTs to be taken up under their respective States' budget. Out of remaining 6382 projects financially supported by Department, 6376 (99.91%) have been completed. Balance 6 projects have got stuck up due to some legal/administrative technicalities at State level. Through the implementation of 6382 projects under WDC-PMKSY funded by DoLR, since 2015-16 to 2021-22, 6.56 lakh water harvesting structures were created / rejuvenated. An additional area of 14.54 lakh ha has been brought under protective irrigation. The number of farmers benefitted is 31.93 lakh during the said period. In addition to this, during 2018-19 and 2021-22, 1.63 lakh ha have been brought under plantation (Afforestation/ Horticulture), 3.36 lakh ha of culturable wastelands have been treated and 388.66 lakh mandays have been generated under WDC-PMKSY 1.0. Also all targets set against the programme have fully been achieved.

3.7 During the course of oral evidence of the representatives of the Department of Land Resources on the Demands for Grants 2023-24, the Department submitted the following figures before the Committee:



3.8 State/UT wise details of projects sanctioned under WDC-PMKSY 1.0 & completed are given below:

Sl. No	State	Total projects sanctioned	Uninitiated Projects transferred to State on 08.02.2018	Preparatory phase projects transferred to State on 01.08.2018	Number of Projects funded by GoI	Status as on 31.12.2022 [#]		
						Work phase	Consolidation phase	Completion reported (Administrative reports of completion received)
1	Andhra Pradesh	432	0	59	373	01	01	371
2	Arunachal Pradesh	156	0	42	114	00	00	114
3	Assam	372	0	92	280	00	00	280
4	Bihar	123	0	59	64	00	00	64
5	Chhattisgarh	263	0	55	208	00	00	208
6	Gujarat	610	61	60	489	00	00	489
7	Haryana	88	13	0	75	00	00	75
8	Himachal Pradesh	163	0	32	131	00	00	131
9	Jharkhand	171	28	0	143	00	00	143
10	Karnataka	571	2	140	429	00	00	429
11	Kerala	83	0	14	69	00	00	69
12	Madhya Pradesh	517	3	68	446	00	00	446
13	Maharashtra	1186	6	156	1024	00	00	1024
14	Manipur	102	0	41	61	00	00	61
15	Meghalaya	96	12	23	61	00	00	61
16	Mizoram	89	0	40	49	00	00	49
17	Nagaland	111	0	0	111	00	00	111
18	Odisha	310	0	76	234	00	00	234
19	Punjab	67	8	26	33	00	00	33
20	Rajasthan	1025	41	164	820	03	00	817
21	Sikkim	15	4	5	6	00	00	6
22	Tamil Nadu	270	0	0	270	00	00	270
23	Telangana	330	0	54	276	01	00	275
24	Tripura	65	0	9	56	00	00	56
25	Uttarakhand	65	0	3	62	00	00	62
26	Uttar Pradesh	612	125	238	249	00	00	249
27	West Bengal	163	42	2	119	00	00	119
28	UT of J&K	144	0	25	119	00	00	119
29	UT of Ladakh	15	0	4	11	00	00	11
Total		8214	345	1487	6382	05	01	6376

As per the information received from States.

3.9 Giving details about key learnings from WDC-PMKSY 1.0 and changes made in the frame work of WDC-PMKSY 2.0 on the basis of experience gained, the DoLR in their written reply stated that :

"M/s KPMG Advisory Services Pvt. Ltd., on behalf of the NITI Aayog, evaluated the Scheme on REESI parameters and found the scheme suitable for continuation. However, the study observed that the scheme was facing challenges of 'Sustainability'. Keeping the observations of M/s KPMG and issues of climate change in view, the Department employed National RainFed Area Authority for formulation of new Guidelines for upcoming WDC-PMKSY 2.0."

3.10 The Department further stated that :

"WDC-PMKSY 2.0 is being implemented according to the Guidelines for New Generation Watershed Projects. The main features and the major improvements envisaged in the new guidelines *inter alia* include the following:

- The revised cost norm of Rs. 28,000/- per ha for hilly & difficult areas, Rs. 22,000/- per ha for other areas and up to Rs. 28,000 per ha for watershed projects in Integrated Action Plan (IAP) Districts.
- DPR of projects to be based on actual requirement. Per unit cost as proposed from Centre, and over & above cost to be met by States through convergence or from their own budget.
- Geo-tagging of all planned activities before implementation, outcome and impact-oriented and user-focused monitoring (before & after).
- Project period reduced from 4-7 years to 3-5 years.
- Introduction of Farmers Producers Organizations (FPO) right from planning stage of the project.
- Transition from predominantly mechanical/engineering treatments to more of biological measures.
- Landscape ecosystem regeneration approach- GHG reduction, surface and sub surface carbon sequestration – working towards commitment linked to UNFCCC, UNCCD, SDG, NDC etc.
- Diversification of watershed economy by adopting integrated farming system with horticulture afforestation fisheries animal husbandry etc.
- Spring-shed development introduced as new activity in watershed projects.
- Introduced building Land Resource Inventory for at least 10% of the sanctioned projects.
- Focused efforts on climate change issues.
- Participatory Water Budgets - to be carried out one each in pre and post rainy season.
- Thrust on plantation and horticulture activities- advisory issued to all the States/UTs for taking up plantation and horticulture on up to 20% of the watershed project areas.

- Promoting cultivars tolerant of multiple climate stresses."

3.11 WDC-PMKSY 2.0

Indicators/ Parameters	WDC-PMKSY 2.0 (2022-23- upto September, 2022)
Development of degraded /rainfed area(ha)	72,063.90
Area covered with soil and moisture conservation activities (ha)	63,165.71
Area brought under plantation [Afforestation / Horticulture etc.] (ha)	27,596.98
No. of water harvesting structures newly created/ renovated	4,139
Area covered under diversified crops / change in cropping systems (ha)	3,963.49
Area brought from nil / single crop to double or more crop(ha)	2,705.30
Increase in cropped area (ha)	3,167.39
No. of Farmers benefited	1,03,437
Area brought under protective irrigation (ha)	13,239.61
No. of Man-days generated(Man-days)	17,59,897

3.12 On being enquired that out of 49.43 lakh hectare area of land to be developed under WDC-PMKSY 2.0, only 72063.9 hectare area has been developed, whether it was possible to develop the entire targeted area by 2025-26 under PMKSY 2.0, the DoLR in their written reply informed that:

"Under WDC-PMKSY 2.0, a total of 1110 projects covering approx.. 4.94 million ha have been sanctioned to 28 States and UTs (J&K and Ladakh). The Central share involved in WDC-PMKSY 2.0 is Rs. 7864.25 crore. The estimation of project cost is made at Rs.22,000/ha for plain areas, and Rs.28,000/ha for hilly & difficult areas (desert areas) and upto Rs. 28,000/ha for LWE/IAP Districts. Based on the project area, the cost of each project, the Central share has been estimated and the same has been allocated by the Central Government to states/UTs with due approval of the competent authority. As indicated in the Scheme Guidelines, States/UTs are expected to prepare their DPRs and implement the project works in the fields. It is possible to develop the entire targeted area by 2025-26. It is observed from National Review Meeting and Regional Review Meetings that States/UTs are putting all resources to achieve desired targets by the end of 2025-26.

3.13 Asked whether the present level of budgetary allocation is sufficient to develop all the identified lands before 2025-26, the Department in their written reply stated as under:

"Most of the States have completed initial activities i.e. DPRs, IEC and EPA and have entered into work phase (NRM). Therefore, pace of achievement will gain momentum now. It is to mention that the physical achievements reported are only for two quarters of FY 2022-23. State/UTs, have since been implementing projects in full swing, would require more funds in coming financial year to achieve the targets by 2025-26. The BE figure of Rs 2200 crore for 2023-24 may need revision at RE stage based on the performance/fund utilisation by States/UTs in the next FY."

(c) Financial Progress:

3.14 The table below shows the total funds allocated / released / funding pattern of all schemes State-wise during the last three years upto 31.12.2022:

(Rs.in Crore)

Year	BE	RE	Release	Percentage of RE released
2019-20	2066.00	1732.97 ^{\$}	1478.64 [*]	85.32
2020-21	2000.00	1000.00	998.36 [*]	99.83
2021-22	2000.00	1216.00	1195.97 [^]	98.35
2022-23	2000.00	1000.08	413.42 [^]	41.34

* Releases under WDC-PMKSY 1.0.

[^] Releases under WDC-PMKSY 2.0.

^{\$} In addition, Rs. 105 Crore provided for Neeranchal project. This project has been closed w.e.f. 22.07.2019. Expenditure of only Rs. 0.1913 Crore was incurred and the balance amount of Rs. 104.8087 Crore has been surrendered to Ministry of Finance.

3.15 Asked about the reasons for slow utilisation of funds as on 31.12.2022, only 413.42 Crore (41.34 %) have been released against the RE allocation of Rs. 1000.08 Crore and how does the DoLR plan to utilize the remaining fund upto 31.03.2023, the DoLR in their written reply stated as under:

"The release under WDC-PMKSY 2.0 scheme is based on the proposals received from States/UTs. Projects in most of States/UTs are under preparatory/initial phases and they are taking time to put their requisite physical and administrative setup in place. As per practice and guidelines of WDC-PMKSY 2.0, a period of initial 6-8 months is required to prepare quality DPRs and compilation of Entry Point Activity in order to

enter into work phase. Major resources are utilized in work phase (NRM). Therefore, there is less expenditure during the last 6-8 months. Most States/UTs have completed initial activities that *inter alia* include IEC, EPA and DPRs and most of projects are / will be in work phase now. Therefore, it is expected to achieve desired physical and financial progress during remaining part of the financial year. Further, as per the new guidelines of Ministry of Finance OM dated 31.03.2021, the next tranche would be claimed by the States/UTs only after utilizing 75% of the earlier release. As the Department has made release in last quarter of FY 2021-22 only, and the scheme was in its initial/preliminary stage, the States/UTs were not able to claim funds due the low utilization of fund already released. Many States/UTs have received Central Share released in FY 2021-22 along with matching State Share in mid 2022-23. However, the implementation of the scheme is being regularly reviewed and monitored at Department level through Regional Review Meetings, National Level Meetings, Reviews through Video Conferences and field visits by the senior and programme officers. By end of January 2023, Department is expecting release of approx. 85% of the RE 2022-23. As on date, status of utilization of fund is Rs 505.58 crore, and release of Rs. 345.22 crore is in advance stage. Therefore, it is expected that the remaining funds would be utilized by the end of this financial year."

3.16 Actual expenditure, revised estimates along with amount surrendered along with the reasons: (Rs.in Crore)

S.No.	Year	BE	RE	Actual Expenditure	Amount Surrendered w.r.t. RE	Reason for shortfall
1	2019-20	2066.00	1732.97 ^{\$}	1478.45	254.52	Keeping focus on completion of the already sanctioned projects, no new projects were sanctioned from 2015-16 to 2020-21. Funds were been provided for implementation of the ongoing projects for the said period.
2	2020-21	2000.00	1000.00	998.36	1.64	
3	2021-22	2000.00	1216.00	1195.97 [#]	19.39	The new generation "WDC-PMKSY 2.0" approved by the Government on 15 December 2021. Accordingly, the projects were sanctioned and the funds released in the last quarter of 2021-22.
4	2022-23	2000.00	1000.08	413.42 [*]	Not Applicable	As per Ministry of Finance OM dated 31.03.2021, the next tranche would be claimed by the States/UTs only after utilizing 75% of the earlier tranche. As the

						Department has made release in last quarter only, and the scheme is in its preliminary stage, the States/UTs were not able to claim for funds due to slow utilization of funds released during FY 2021-22.
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0.64 crore was re-appropriated to Admin Division for Office expenses.

*as on 31.12.2022.

\$ In addition, Rs. 105 crore was provided for Neeranchal project. This project has been closed w.e.f. 22.07.2019. Expenditure of only Rs. 0.1913 crore was incurred and the balance amount of Rs. 104.8087 crore has been surrendered to Ministry of Finance.

3.17 In their written reply on the query of challenges being faced in getting necessary co-operation from all the WDC-PMKSY States for timely utilization of funds released to them, the DoLR stated:-

"Most States/UTs are releasing their matching State Share to State Level Nodal Agencies on time. However, sometimes there is a delay in release of Central Share and matching State Share from States/UTs within the prescribed time limit of 21 days. The next installment of Central share is however, released to them only after receipt of matching State Share as per the provisions of the Scheme Guidelines and utilization of the 75% of the earlier release."

3.18 The difference between physical and financial targets fixed during the last three years along with reasons for shortfall: (Phy: Area in lakh ha ; Fin: Rs. in crore)

Year	Target		Achievement		Reasons for short fall
	Phy. area of the projects to be sanctioned	Fin. (RE)	Phy. area of the projects sanctioned	Fin.	
2019-20	@	1732.97\$	@	1478.45	85.31% of financial target have been achieved
2020-21	@	1000.00\$	@	998.36	99.83% of financial target have been achieved
2021-22	4.95 mha	1216.00	4.94 mha	1195.97	99.35% of financial target and 99.82 % physical target have been achieved

@ No new projects were sanctioned. Funds were provided for implementation of the ongoing projects.

\$ In addition, Rs. 105 crore was provided for Neeranchal project. This project has been closed w.e.f. 22.07.2019. Expenditure of only Rs. 0.1913 crore was incurred and the balance amount of Rs. 104.8087 crore has been surrendered to Ministry of Finance.

3.19 **World Bank assisted new Multi-State Watershed Project “Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agricultural Resilience through Innovative Development (REWARD)”**

World Bank supported program namely —“Rejuvenating Watershed for Agriculture Resilience through Innovative Development (REWARD)” was prepared in consultation with World Bank & DEA. The preliminary program report of REWARD was prepared by DoLR and approved by DEA in its 113th Screening Committee meeting held on 23.12.2020. The program objective of REWARD is —“to strengthen capacities of National and State institutions to adopt improved watershed management for increasing farmers’ resilience and support value chains in selected watersheds of participating States.” The total cost of the program at DoLR and two partner States is USD 167.71 million (Rs. 1228.31 crore @ one USD = Rs. 73.24 as on 04.11.2020) over a program period of 5 years from FY 2021-22 to 2025-26. Total budget includes USD 115 million from World Bank [Karnataka (USD 60 million), Odisha (USD 49 million) and DoLR (USD 6 million)], USD 46.71 million from two States [Karnataka (USD 25.71 million) and Odisha (USD 21.0 million)] and USD 6 million from DoLR. The World Bank Board approved the REWARD Program on 10th December 2021 and subsequently, the loan agreement was signed between Government of India, World Bank and participating States on 18th February 2022. Further, the World Bank had declared the effectiveness of the program w.e.f. 24th March 2022. The REWARD Programme was launched by the Hon’ble MoRD & PR on 08.05.2022 at Bangalore.

(d) **Unspent Balances**

Unspent balance under WDC-PMKSY during the last three years and upto 31.12.2022 of current year is as below:

(Rs. in Crore)

Unspent Balance @	
2019-20	2254.73
2020-21	1832.85
2021-22 [^]	1120.42
2022-23 [^]	1394.35

@ Unspent balance includes Central share, State share, interest accrued and other miscellaneous receipts.

[^]Bank balance as per the PFMS report (SNA01) as on 31.12.2022.

3.20 On the issue of liquidating the unspent balance under WDC-PMKSY 1.0 & 2.0, the DoLR in their written reply stated as under:

"The unspent balances in WDC-PMKSY 1.0 has already been utilized by the States/UTs and no unutilized balance is left with the States under WDC-PMKSY 1.0 except Andhra Pradesh where the State Government still needs to refund unspent balance. Unspent Balance in respect for WDC-PMKSY 2.0 has been compiled as per the PFMS SNA-01 report. State/UT wise bank balance is given as below:

(Amount in Rs.)

Sr No	State Name	Balance in the Bank Account of SNA (As per SNA-01 report as on 27.01.2023)
1	Andhra Pradesh	28,53,70,894.59
2	Arunachal Pradesh	22,21,01,614.25
3	Assam	9,51,38,878.15
4	Bihar	1,57,78,65,632.00
5	Chhattisgarh	75,68,85,759.70
6	Goa	3,37,38,699.00
7	Gujarat	35,75,91,439.37
8	Haryana	78,81,546.40
9	Himachal Pradesh	15,99,84,601.83
10	UT of Jammu And Kashmir	17,16,69,241.99
11	Jharkhand	34,39,23,858.99
12	Karnataka	25,56,39,517.52
13	Kerala	24,94,30,607.17
14	Madhya Pradesh	1,26,22,51,538.80
15	Maharashtra	1,09,52,64,601.52
16	Manipur	9,25,43,647.35
17	Meghalaya	42,29,34,104.00
18	Mizoram	3,12,57,384.00
19	Nagaland	2,32,35,530.10
20	Odisha	1,00,94,80,128.07
21	Punjab	11,48,20,448.27
22	Rajasthan	3,92,53,71,068.00
23	Sikkim	67,81,241.00
24	Tamil Nadu	27,53,42,570.87
25	Telangana	10,55,81,540.00
26	Tripura	13,25,35,909.00
27	Uttar Pradesh	45,43,39,530.00
28	Uttarakhand	3,02,72,630.00
29	West Bengal	21,27,26,566.93
30	UT of Ladakh	3,47,00,000
	Total	1374,66,60,728.87

3.21 The Department further added that :

"For better utilization of unspent balance under WDC-PMKSY 2.0, the physical and financial performance and implementation of the scheme

are regularly reviewed and monitored at Department level through Regional Review Meetings, National Level Meetings, Review through Video Conferences and field visit by the Senior and program officers. Further, as per the new guidelines of Ministry of Finance OM dated 31.03.2021, the next tranche would be claimed by the States/UTs only after utilizing 75% of the earlier tranche. It is also ensured that Annual Action Plans and subsequently releases of the fund shall be made as per need assessment. This will ensure unutilized funds should not be lying idle with States/UTs on one hand and on the other hand, sufficient funds are available for performing States/UTs to meet out their necessary requirements"

(e) **Monitoring and evaluation under WDC-PMKSY**

3.22 According to the Ministry, following steps are being taken to monitor the scheme:

Web based Monitoring: A geo-spatial portal *SRISHTI* has been developed in the year 2015 with the assistance of National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) for monitoring the progress of the projects. Geo-coded and time-stamped photographs on near real-time basis are uploaded on *SRISHTI* portal using a mobile application *DRISHTI*, specifically developed for the purpose.

Financial Monitoring: Public Financial Management System(PFMS) is being implemented w.e.f. 2015-16. Further with reference to the revised PFMS guidelines dated 23.03.2021 issued by Ministry of Finance, all states/UTs have to come on SNA module having single account at SNA level and zero balance accounts at Intermediate Agencies down the line. All the States/UTs are on SNA Module. The real time financial monitoring is being done through PFMS.

Physical Monitoring: The parameters/indicators like water harvesting structures created / rejuvenated, additional area brought under protective irrigation and number of farmers benefited has been captured since 2014-15 and Area brought under plantation (Horticulture & Afforestation), culturable wasteland treated and number of man-days employment generated has been captured since 2018-19 to check the physical progress of the scheme. Moreover, based on the Output Outcome Monitoring Framework developed in consultation with NITI Aayog, 6 Output and 5 Outcome indicators are being captured since 2021-22.

3.23 Asked about the new and emerging monitoring provision for WDC-PMKSY 2.0 and changes proposed in effective monitoring of WDC-PMKSY 2.0 to ward off difficulties faced during implementation of WDC-PMKSY 1.0, the DoLR in their written reply stated:

"The Department is aware of strength and benefits of technology. Technology enables multiple actions, viz. strengthening program

management and coordination, undertaking activity-based project planning, formulating action plans, streamlining sanctions and release of funds, creating useful databases, assessing actual impacts of projects, making effective prioritization, preparing scientific DPRs, documenting best practices and case studies, as also facilitating free and seamless flow of information and data. The new vision of watershed program (WDC-PMKSY 2.0) has been planned to integrate new indigenous technologies, with traditional knowledge and experiences of local communities. Availability of digital maps at NRSC Bhuvan platforms, open source tools integrating mobile apps, Geographic Information System & Remote Sensing (GIS&RS) and web platforms will enable smooth integration of field data with maps/spatial data. The National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) as a Knowledge Partner of Department of Land Resources (DoLR) under the WDC-PMKSY 2.0 would further facilitate States/UTs with available new technologies, innovations and tools for participatory planning, implementation and assessment. There are new technological advances and tools available in climate monitoring and weather-based advisories developed by various agencies like India Meteorological Department (IMD), Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), Network for Information on Climate (Ex) Change (NICE) platform, Climate Information Centres and others including, various Ministries / Departments. NRAA would facilitate to avail these technologies in the project planning and implementation. GIS&RS technologies are being used for scientific planning and monitoring performance of projects under the Scheme to curtail subjective decisions in identifying of the activity on time in the projects. National Level Nodal Agency (NLNA) and State Level Nodal Agency (SLNA) have already established core GIS facilities for using satellite imagery data received from National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) and ISRO. The evolving modern watershed management practices demand use of State-of-the Art scientific tools like GIS, Global-positioning System (GPS), Management Information System (MIS) & Remote Sensing (RS) for effective planning, monitoring and evaluation of the watershed projects. These technologies not only have the ability to integrate wide range of scientific process but also help in tracking progress, process efficiency and quality on a real time basis and support the project management in micro as well as macro level analytics for timely decision making."

3.24 On being enquired whether the Geo Portal on Srishti and mobile Application Drishti face any challenge in terms of network coverage and support infrastructure, the DoLR in their written reply stated as follows:

"The Department has tied up with the National Remote Sensing Centre for use of space technology to monitor the watershed program. A geo-spatial portal SRISHTI is available from 2015 for web-based monitoring of the program. A mobile application DRISHTI is also available for uploading Geo-coded and time-stamped photographs on near real-time basis on SRISHTI portal. Further, there are technology-enabled features in SRISTHI and DRISHTI to capture pictures and upload them on priority as per the technical convenience. As such States/UTs have not reported any challenges/problems in its usage."

3.25 **Digital payment under WDC-PMKSY**

Public Financial Management System (PFMS) is being implemented w.e.f. 2015-16. Chairpersons/CEOs of SLNAs of all States/UTs were requested that (a) cent per cent transfer of funds from SLNA to Watershed Cell-cum-Data Centre (WCDC), WCDC to Project Implementation Agency (PIA) and to Watershed Committees (WC) may be ensured through PFMS, and (b) payment for goods, services, labour, etc. at all levels i.e. SLNA, WCDC, PIA and WC may be made through PFMS wherever feasible. States/UTs were also requested that digital modes of transactions may be proactively adopted wherever feasible and that the public are concurrently made aware, encouraged and motivated for adopting digital transactions. Further with reference to the revised PFMS guidelines dated 23.03.2021 issued by Ministry of Finance, all States/UTs have come on SNA module having single account at SNA level and zero balance accounts at Intermediate Agencies down the line. The real time financial monitoring is being done through PFMS. Department is also in process of integrating PFMS with MIS 2.0 recently launched to have control/monitoring over project-wise expenditure.

3.26 An Output Outcome Monitoring Framework developed in consultation by NITI Aayog is in place for monitoring the performance of the Scheme through 11 output/outcome indicators. Further, performance and implementation of the scheme is regularly reviewed and monitored at Department level through Regional Review Meetings, National Level Meetings, Review through Video Conferences and field visit by the senior and program officers. Department has already taken suitable initiative to develop a comprehensive MIS system to capture micro level (plot-wise) information from the field and to integrate Bhuvan portal, PFMS and WDC-PMKSY 2.0 MIS to capture data and information as a tool for effective monitoring evaluation and mid-term course-corrections of the programme.

3.27 On the issue of third-party assessment/ audit of the projects under PMKSY 1.0, the DoLR in their written reply stated as under:-

"Evaluation of all Centrally Sponsored Schemes under 28 Umbrella Schemes including WDC-PMKSY was undertaken by Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), NITI Aayog through M/s KPMG Advisory Services Pvt. Ltd. A brief summary of major findings / recommendations of the evaluating agency in respect of WDC-PMKSY 1.0 are as below:

- i. Rainfed agriculture is vital to the country's economy and food security as it contributes to about 40% of the total food grain production.

Watershed development aims to develop rainfed regions of net cultivated area, culturable wastelands and degraded lands.

- ii. WDC-PMKSY has been effective in realizing benefits as shown by various End-line evaluation reports such as improvement in surface and groundwater availability, increasing in cropping intensity, area under horticulture crops, crop productivity and livelihood opportunities.
- iii. Watershed project played a role in facilitating employment in rainfed areas. Support is provided for self-employment opportunities under the livelihood component.
- iv. Srishti and Drishti _Bhuvan Portal' developed by ISRO / NRSC under WDC-PMKSY have significantly improved the planning and monitoring of watershed projects. There is a fair use of technology that has been adopted for monitoring of physical and financial progress of the scheme.
- v. Around 16.6% of the budget is released for Schedule Caste sub-plan and 10% is released for Tribal sub-plan. SC/ST population of any states/UTs (in % terms) forms one of the selection criteria of watershed at the national level. The landless and assetless SC/ST population is covered under the livelihood activities for which 9% of the allocation is earmarked. While forming SHGs adequate representation of SC/ST population is ensured.
- vi. Scheme guidelines have ensured that the watershed projects follow the principle of equity which keeps women in mind from the DPR phase onwards to the consolidation phase of the project.
- vii. The per hectare cost norm of Rs.12,000 (Rs. 15,000 for hilly areas), which has been prevailing since 2008-09, is very low for WDC project. These cost norms are outdated and need revision. The cost norms for the scheme should be revised to reflect the current market conditions. The cost norms should be between Rs. 25,000 to 30,000 per hectare for the plains
- viii. Convergence should be brought in at the planning phase of the project itself and not in the implementation phase.
- ix. Urgent need to incorporate measures to improve climate change resilience into the design of watershed schemes and need to educate the people at the grass-root level.
- x. Watershed projects should focus on the creation and nurture of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Farmer Cooperatives (FCs) to facilitate forward linkages.
- xi. There is a need for raising awareness of the local community with proper hand holding for proper maintenance of assets during O&M Phase.
- xii. DoLR needs further strengthening of professionals and requires additional capacity to give appropriate guidance and advisories to the States on technical matters.
- xiii. India aims to double current annual agriculture productivity (2,509 kg/hectare) to 5,018 kg/hectare by 2030. Rainfed agriculture contributes to about 40 percent of the total food grain production.
- xiv. As per the Centre for Agrarian Studies at the National Institute for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR), the watershed

development project is the only option for rainfed areas, contributing to water conservation and recharge and preventing soil degradation.

- xv. Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development (2016-2017) in its report on "Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY) erstwhile IWMP in July 2017, strongly felt that projects under WDC are essential for the development of rainfed areas given the overall vision of the government for the agriculture sector."

3.28 In connection to the above findings, the DoLR further stated that:

"The recommendations made in the evaluation study mentioned above; like, revision of the cost norms, measures to improve climate change resilience into the design of watershed schemes, forward linkages, close monitoring for effective project implementation, maintenance of assets during post-project period, strengthening of the DoLR, need for convergence etc. for achieving better outcomes under WDC-PMKSY 2.0 have been duly incorporated in the revised draft guidelines for new generation WDC-PMKSY 2.0 and the Department is moving steadily towards implementing these recommendations."

3.29 On the query of taking services of Experts and Professional agencies in the execution of the Projects under WDC-PMKSY 2.0, the DoLR in their written reply stated as under: —

"The Department has chosen National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) as a knowledge partner for development of New Generation Watershed Projects Guidelines, and National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) for use of space technology to monitor the watershed program. A geo-spatial portal SRISHTI is being implemented since 2015 with the assistance of National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) for monitoring. Geo-coded and time-stamped photographs on near real-time basis are uploaded on SRISHTI portal using a mobile application DRISHTI specifically developed for the purpose. The mobile application DRISHTI has the functionality to store data and upload to SRISHTI portal later if data connectivity issues are encountered. States/UTs also undertake third party evaluations of the watershed projects from reputed Central/States organizations/Institutions at their level. The Government of India has mandated NITI Aayog to undertake an independent third - party evaluation of all Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) with a view to ensure judicious use of public resources and rationalization of CSS, especially in the context of the 15th Finance Commission. As in case of WDC-PMKSY 1.0, NITI Aayog had engaged M/s KPMG Advisory Services Private Limited to undertake an evaluation of CSS in Water Resources, Environment and Forest sectors. This evaluation covered Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) - an umbrella scheme comprising several related components including Watershed Development Component of PMKSY."

(f) **Convergence with other Schemes**

3.30 When asked, how the DoLR is planning to realise the objective of convergence of the programme under its domain with other Programmes of the different Ministries for expanding the coverage and benefits of its current schemes based on the experiences from the implementation of WDC-PMKSY 1.0, the DoLR in their reply stated that "the Department is aware of the strength and benefits of convergence. The convergence is the process that results in achievement of common objectives through targeted and efficient use of financial and human resources in a coordinated & concerted manner. Specific convergence initiatives could be of a complementary or supplementary nature that promotes more comprehensive treatment, upgradation of assets created, sustainability and up-scaling successful initiatives by adding value at every stage. The watershed approach provides a dynamic framework that enables cooperation in efforts and synergy in outcome from various government and non-government programs. To effect qualitative convergence of different schemes, due emphasis is necessary on the planning process, that includes mapping of activities from mutually agreed programs; clarity about targets, timeframes and shared responsibilities; and monitoring parameters."

3.31 In another written reply, the DoLR further stated that "Sectoral Group of Secretaries (SGoS) Group1, while deliberating over the prospect of improvising the performance of WDC-PMKSY suggested 'convergence' as one of the promising avenues. To have effective convergence, the Department has already advised States/UTs to prepare the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for new projects sanctioned under WDC 2.0 to consider various available schemes along with its eligible activities and resources. Some of the important schemes that can be dovetailed are:

- a) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY): District Irrigation Plans (DIPs) prepared under PMKSY provide a master plan for water sector development in the district. Project Watershed Development Plans (PWDP) prepared as per these Guidelines need to be harmonised with the DIPs. The convergence to be promoted here is incorporating 'Per Drop More Crop' component of PMKSY, with a view to enhance water use efficiency of the water sources created in the project area. This is done by integrating micro-irrigation systems to the water bodies and also promoting low water duty crops and varieties.
- b) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS): Mechanisms of integration of watershed development projects with MGNREGS activities have been developed in various

States/UTs. MGNREGS that promotes labour intensive works, from a variety of activities is highly suited to watershed development. There is scope to take up water harvesting structures, land development, soil & water conservation treatments and plantation, all of which are required in a watershed project. The convergence between PWDP and MGNREGS can happen to mutual advantage. All activities that are proposed to be taken up through MGNREGS may be indicated, and approved by GP.

- c) National Food Security Mission (NFSM): This program has, of late, brought sharper focus on pulses through NFSM (Pulses), oilseeds and nutri-cereals. These crops are important for diversifying rainfed crop systems, besides promoting resilience to vagaries of weather. Strategic convergence between watershed projects and NFSM will help in promoting these crops in the project area. Improved status of soil, water, quality inputs and good agricultural practices can contribute substantially increase in yield of these crops grown in rainfed areas.

Integrated Farming System (IFS): Rainfed agriculture can generate higher income and better resilience when integrated with trees (amenable to agro-forestry), horticulture, livestock, fisheries etc. The IFS approach in a project area can benefit from several ongoing government schemes. These encompass Mission Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), National Mission on Edible Oils – Oil Palm (NMEO-OP), Sub Mission on Agro-forestry (SMAF), National Bamboo Mission (NBM), National Afforestation Programme (NAP), Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), Green India Mission (GIM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), National Livestock Mission, National Gokul Mission and schemes related to pisciculture, apiculture, sericulture etc."

3.32 Adding more to their reply, the Department submitted as under:

"States/UTs have, accordingly, issued advisories to maximize convergence with relevant schemes under watershed projects from time to time. Recently a D.O letter No.J-11060/4/2019-RE-VI dated 24.04.2020 jointly signed by Secretaries of D/o Drinking Water and Sanitation, D/o Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, D/o Rural Development & D/o Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India, was addressed to Chief Secretaries of all States / UTs, emphasizing on convergence efforts for utilization of all the available resources of relevant Central schemes for effective rain water harvesting and water conservation. Similarly, DoLR after due consultations with Department of Rural Development has issued advisory in the form of joint DO letter dated 21.09.2022 advising States/UTs for convergence with MGNREGA as per guidelines. These coordinated efforts would enable to enhance the level of convergence in watershed projects and would facilitate achieving effective saturation in land development efforts under the Scheme. It has been appreciated that the cost norm may prove insufficient for the development of watershed projects on saturation basis. Keeping this in mind, the DoLR has been emphasizing with States / UTs to

maximize convergence of possible activities under various schemes of Central and State Governments and try abridging the financial gap. The convergence is likely to help in the effective implementation of PMKSY on saturation basis."

B. Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP)

(a) Background

3.33 The National Land Record Modernization Programme (NLRMP) was approved by the Cabinet on 21.8.2008 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and later revamped under the Digital India initiative and renamed as Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) and is being implemented as a Central Sector Scheme with effect from 1st April, 2016 with 100% funding by the Centre. The programme has been extended up to 2025-26.

3.34 During 2018-19, a mobilization advance of up to 30% was permitted as first installment and subsequent installments on re-imbursalment basis. Same funding pattern continued in 2019-20 until Department of Expenditure approved the restoration of funding pattern from re-imbursalment basis to advance basis and also restored the components like Programme Management Unit (PMU), Survey/ re-survey and Core GIS w.e.f 03-01-2020.

The programme has the following major components and activities:

S. N.	Component	
1	Computerization of Land Records	(i) Computerization of record of rights; (ii) digitization of cadastral maps; (iii) integration of record of rights (textual) and cadastral maps (spatial); (iv) data centres at state level.
2	Computerization of Registration	(i) Computerization of Sub Registrar Offices (SROs); (ii) connectivity between sub-registrar offices and tehsils; and (iii) integration of registration and land records.
3	Survey / resurvey	Survey / resurvey and updating of the survey & settlement records.
4	Modern record rooms	Modern record rooms / land records management centres at tehsil level.
5	Training & capacity building	Creation of DILRMP Cells at Administrative Training Institutes and / or the Survey / Revenue / Patwari Training Institutes of states.

6	Project Management Unit	To provide human resources and other infrastructure to provide support for the effective implementation of various components of DILRMP.
7	Computerisation of Revenue Court Management System	Computerization of all Revenue Courts in the country and their integration with land records.
8	Integration of Aadhaar number with the land record database on voluntary basis	To link Aadhaar number with Records of Rights (RoR).

(b) Physical Progress

**State wise and component wise, physical progress under DILRMP
(as on 27.01.2023)**

S. No.	Component	States/UTs Completed (above 90%)	States/UTs activity ongoing (less than 90%)	States/UTs activity not started.
	Computerization Of Land Records i.e. Records of Rights (RoR)	Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nct Of Delhi, Odisha, Puducherry, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamilnadu, Telangana, Dadra and Nagar Haveli And Daman and Diu, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal (29 States/UTs)	Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland (4 States/UTs)	Arunachal Pradesh, Ladakh, Meghalaya (Land is owned by communities in Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya. In Ladakh fund has been sanctioned in 2022) (3 States/UTs)
2.	Digitization Of Cadastral Maps	Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, NCT of Delhi, Odisha, Puducherry, Sikkim, Tamilnadu, Tripura, West Bengal (21 States/UTs)	Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Telangana, The Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman And Diu, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh (10 States/UTs)	Arunachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Meghalaya (5 States/UTs) (Land Records in Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya are with Communities)
3.	Integration of Records of Rights (RoR) with Cadastral Maps	Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chattisgarh, Goa, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Tripura, West Bengal (7 States/UTs)	Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Assam, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Lakshadweep, Mizoram, Nagaland, NCT of Delhi, Rajasthan, The Tamilnadu,	Arunachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Ladakh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Puducherry, Punjab, Sikkim, Telangana (14 States/ UTs)

			Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman And Diu, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh (13 States / UTs)	(Land Records in Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya are with Communities)
4.	Computerization of Registration i.e. Sub Registrar Offices (SROs)	Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharastra, Nct Of Delhi, Odisha, Puducherry, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Telangana, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal (27 States/UTs)	Ladakh, Mizoram, Tamilnadu, The Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman And Diu (4 States/ UTs)	Arunachal Pradesh, Lakshadweep, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland (5 States/ UTs)
5.	Integration of Registration (SRO) with Land Records (Revenue Offices)	Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharastra, NCT of Delhi, Odisha, Puducherry, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Telangana, Tripura, Uttarakhand (21 States/UTs)	Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh, Mizoram, Punjab, Dadra and Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal (8 States/ UTs)	Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Lakshadweep, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tamilnadu (7 States/ UTs)

3.35 When asked why some States/ UTs have not shown any progress on different components under DILRMP and steps undertaken to initiate work in that; the DoLR in their written reply stated as under:

"There had been slow progress in some of the components in some States/UTs. The implementation of this programme is a complex, sensitive and voluminous work, involving cumbersome and time consuming processes. Gestation period of completion of the various activities/components of this programme is relatively longer as compared to other schemes. Now, however, substantial progress has been achieved in the requirement of *inter alia* Computerization of Record of Rights (RoR), Computerization of Registration, connectivity between Sub-Registrar Offices and Tehsils, integration of Registration and Land Records, etc. Some States like Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Manipur (Partial) are not able to implement some of the components due to community ownership of lands and non-availability of land records with Government. Further, the Department has been putting in all efforts through regional review meetings and follow ups through field visits, D.O letters, emails etc. to resolve such issues. The same is also being taken up at the highest level in the Department of Land Resources."

3.36 Replying further on Department's plan to initiate works in some of the Non starter/ slow mover states, the DoLR stated that:

"As a step towards healthy competition and monitoring among the districts, this Department has initiated monthly grading among the districts in following six components of DILRMP:

- i) Computerization of Land Records (RoR)
- ii) Digitization of Cadastral Maps/FMBs
- iii) Linkage of RoR with Cadastral maps
- iv) Computerization of Registration
- v) Integration of Registration (SRO) with Land Records (Revenue Office)
- vi) Modern Record Room

Grading is being done on the basis of performance of districts as reflected in MIS of DILRMP in all above mentioned six components as per the following percentage pattern and a ranking list is being prepared for each component/category. Best practices under different activities have been compiled and circulated to States/UTs to motivate and replicate these practices without reinventing the procedures and methodologies to achieve end results under DILRMP.

Sl.No.	Grade Category	Achievement/Completion in percentage range
1.	Platinum	99% and above
2.	Gold	95% and above till 99%
3.	Silver	90% and above till 95%

As on 30.11.2022, 75 districts in 10 States have achieved Platinum Grading by completing the 99% and above work in above six components."

3.37 The Committee enquired the time by when the DoLR proposes to cover all the districts of the country under DILRMP, the Department in their written reply stated as under:

"Government has approved extension of DILRMP for a period of five years from 2021-22 to 2025-26. The DoLR would try to cover all the districts under DILRMP in the country by 2025-26 subject to full cooperation and capacity of the State to spend fund for implementation of DILRMP."

3.38 Asked about the major challenges faced in effective implementation of the scheme; the DoLR in their written reply stated as under:

" The implementation of DILRMP is a complex, sensitive and voluminous work, involving cumbersome and time-consuming processes. Gestation period of completion of the various activities/components of this programme is relatively longer as compared to other schemes. DILRMP being a highly technology based programme, States / UTs took

considerable time in adopting and mobilizing the required technology and skilled workforce to implement the programme during the initial period of the scheme. Other reasons that affected the pace of implementation prior to 2016 were lack of resources in the States/UTs to meet the State Share as required under the programme upto 31.03.2016, need of highly skilled manpower and delayed / non-revision of rates in some of the components of the programme. During 2015-16 to 2016-17, the thrust was principally to complete the projects already sanctioned, and accordingly no new projects were sanctioned. Also, progress has been relatively slow in some parts of North Eastern Region. States like Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Manipur (Partial) are not able to implement some of the components due to community ownership of lands and non-availability of land records with government. The lands are given to the cultivators by the community village headmen for practicing shifting agriculture (jhum). Connectivity with reasonable speed especially in NER, is a major challenge for implementation of DILRMP."

3.39 DoLR envisaged having an Integrated Land Records Information Management System (ILIMS) in place in 150 more districts by the end of 2021-22. When asked whether this goal was achieved or not the DoLR in their written reply stated as under:

"As per Management Information System of DILRMP and information received from the States/UTs, so far in 321 Districts, integration of land records with Banks have been undertaken under ILIMS. During 2021-22, 38 more districts against target of 150 have been covered due to outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic. All Revenue Field Functionaries, who are also in-charge of Disaster Management, were engaged to handle the situation on the ground."

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Districts Covered
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13
2.	Bihar	38
3.	Chhattisgarh	28
4.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
5.	Gujarat	33
6.	Himachal Pradesh	12
7.	Karnataka	30
8.	Kerala	14
9.	Madhya Pradesh	52
10.	Maharashtra	36
11.	Manipur	16
12.	Rajasthan	2
13.	Telangana	33
14.	Uttarakhand	13
	Total	321

(c) Financial Progress

3.40 The DILRMP is a demand driven scheme. Funds are released to States/UTs on receipts of the proposals complete in all respects and subject to availability of funds. State-wise release of funds during the last three years and current year (up to 12.1.2023) is given below:

State-wise release of funds during the last three years and current year
(up to 12.1.2022)

(Rs in lakhs)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Funds released (Year-wise)			
		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	6851.65	6627.25	698.11
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	23.52	0	
3	Assam	0.00	1021.2	1576.48	3303.40
4	Bihar	0.00	264.74	6453.83	1000
5	Chhattisgarh	0.00	1106.85	50	7155.811
6	Gujarat	0.00	94.52	0	
7	Goa	0.00	23.52	162	
8	Haryana	0.00	0	0	
9	Himachal Pradesh	657.00	606.56	0	104.44
10	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	1206.08	0	
11	Jharkhand	0.00	2525.51	740	1050.90
12	Karnataka	0.00	0	0	
13	Kerala	0.00	0	0	
14	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	3089.77	322.65	921.12
15	Maharashtra	0.00	34.2	1175	
16	Manipur	500.00	77.81	0	
17	Meghalaya	0.00	0	0	
18	Mizoram	32.74	497.61	136.79	455.30
19	Nagaland	0.00	0	0	
20	Odisha	0.00	2500	0	
21	Punjab	0.00	0	0	
22	Rajasthan	323.22	1752.75	4826.6	

23	Sikkim	0.00	0	786.73	34.4
24	Tamil Nadu	153.34	162.5	0	851.8125
25	Telangana	0.00	0	0	
26	Tripura	0.00	0	0	459.3
27	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	53.52	0	
28	Uttarakhand	2162.02	0	1504.27	950.00
29	West Bengal	0.00	337.5	0	3666.7225
30	A & N Islands	0.00	0	0	
31	Chandigarh	0.00	19.6	0	
32	D & N Haveli	0.00	0	0	
33	Delhi	0.00	0	0	
34	Daman & Diu	0.00	0	0	
35	Lakshadweep	0.00	0	0	
36	Puducherry	0.00	0	0	86.713
37	Ladakh	-	0	300	315.5
38	Misc	549.00	264.7	340.005	929.28
Total All States/UTs		4377.32	22514.11	25001.60	21982.809*

*As on 12.01.2023

3.41 While referring to above table, a query was raised as to why 24 States/UTs were not given any funds during 2021-22. Further, no information was given whether fund was released in respect of 22 states during 2022-23, the DoLR in their written reply stated:

"Implementation of DILRMP is based on the demand raised by the States/UTs. If States/UTs are not fulfilling the criteria of utilization of more than 75% of fund released, the Department cannot release further funds to a State/UT as per revised procedure for fund flow in respect of Central Sector Schemes issued by the Ministry of Finance vide OM dated 09.03.2022. Further, as per said OM only 25% fund can be released at a time to a State/UT and subsequent installment can be released only when 75% of first installment is utilized by a State/UT. DILRMP is demand driven scheme, and requires large number of highly skilled manpower. The capacity to utilize fund is effectively based on factors like availability of quality technical agencies/skilled manpower, priority of State/UTs etc. Further, Some States like Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Manipur (Partial) are not able to implement DILRMP/some of components of DILRMP due to community ownership of lands and non-availability of land records with the government."

3.42 The DoLR has further stated in its preliminary note on Demands for Grants that an amount of Rs. 738.796 crore has been released under the programme from 2019-20 upto 2022-23 (till 31.12.2022). Further there had been slow progress in some of the components in some States/UTs. The implementation of this programme is a complex, sensitive and voluminous work, involving cumbersome and time consuming processes. Gestation period of completion of the various activities/components of this programme is relatively longer as compared to other schemes. Now, However, substantial progress has been achieved in the requirement of *inter alia* Computerization of Record of Rights (RoR), Computerization of Registration, connectivity between Sub-Registrar Offices and Tehsils, integration of Registration and Land Records, etc. Some States like Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Manipur (Partial) are not able to implement some of the components due to community ownership of lands and non-availability of land records with Government.

3.43 Financial releases under DILRMP from 2019-20 to 2021-22 (till 31.12.2022) are as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	% of Achievements (w.r.t RE)
2019-20	150.00	50.00	43.77	87.54
2020-21	238.65	238.00	225.14	94.60
2021-22	150.00	250.00	250.016	100
2022-23	239.25	239.25	219.83	91.90
Total	777.9	777.25	738.796	95.05

3.44 Statement showing budget estimates, revised estimates and actual expenditure

(Rs in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actual expenditure
2019-20	150.00	50.00	43.77
2020-21	238.65	238.00	225.14
2021-22	150.00	250.00	250.016
2022-23	239.25	239.25	219.83*

*(As on 31.12.2022)

(d) Unspent Balance:

(Rs in crore)

Year	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Unspent Balance	398.54	492.82	536.57	648.47

*Total unspent balance as on 01.01.2023 including Rs. 219.87 Cr. released during 2022-23.

3.45 State-wise details of total unspent balance under DILRMP (up to 12.01.2023)

(Rs in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Funds released	Funds utilised	Available Fund
1	Andhra Pradesh	23632.45	12,164.80	11467.65
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1230.94	1,205.97	24.97
3	Assam	9561.64	5,895.34	3666.29
4	Bihar	15489.99	8,654.58	6835.41
5	Chhattisgarh	11658.23	3,114.12	8544.10
6	Gujarat	14404.27	14,033.90	370.37
7	Goa	584.07	332.77	251.30
8	Haryana	4144.65	2,662.47	1482.18
9	Himachal Pradesh	5712.45	4,382.05	1330.40
10	Jammu & Kashmir	2701.64	1,489.37	1212.27
11	Jharkhand	9213.96	8,535.34	678.62
12	Karnataka	2451.20	2,451.20	0.00
13	Kerala	3298.05	3,272.90	25.15
14	Madhya Pradesh	18973.77	15,685.51	3288.26
15	Maharashtra	7745.36	4,597.78	3147.57
16	Manipur	746.34	251.54	494.80
17	Meghalaya	623.75	623.75	0.00
18	Mizoram	2960.07	2,407.12	552.95
19	Nagaland	1547.62	1,547.62	0.00
20	Odisha	12128.04	9,628.04	2500.00
21	Punjab	2796.26	2,796.26	0.00
22	Rajasthan	21322.12	16,000.46	5321.66
23	Sikkim	2248.15	1,165.96	1082.18
24	Tamil Nadu	5414.38	3,850.32	1564.06
25	Telangana	8385.21	8,385.21	0.00
26	Tripura	3455.39	2,854.91	600.48
27	Uttar Pradesh	4231.01	795.02	3435.98
28	Uttarakhand	5395.75	1,770.21	3625.54
29	West Bengal	13193.04	10,148.29	3044.75
30	A & N Islands	172.25	58.04	114.21
31	Chandigarh	187.32	80.05	107.27

32	Daman Diu and D & N Haveli	169.50	169.50	0.00
33	Delhi	132.07	132.07	0.00
34	Lakshadweep	216.41	216.41	0.00
35	Puducherry	585.28	367.53	217.75
36	Ladakh	615.50	0.00	619.56
37	Misc^	4378.92	4378.92	0
		221707.03	1,56,105.36	65605.73

3.46 When asked about the steps being taken by the DoLR to liquidate the unspent balances, the DoLR in their written reply stated that :

" The issue relating to utilization of unspent balances is being regularly pursued with the States through Regional Review Meetings and is followed up through Video Conferences, letters, emails, etc. Regional review meetings were held at Tripura (6-9-2018), Jammu (13-02-2019), Vadodara (26-02-2019), Manipur (05/06-08-2020) and Jaipur (24-01-2020). Regional review was held on 03.08.2021 through Video conference, National Workshop on 16.11.2021, Bhumi Samvaad on 24.06.2022 and 06.12.2022 at Delhi and other meetings through Video conferences were also held in which State/UT representatives participated and were requested to reduce their unspent balance expeditiously. The same is being also taken up with the States / UTs at the level of Joint Secretary, Additional Secretary and Secretary, LR through DO letters, email, etc."

(e) Current Status

3.47 Asked about the list of States/UTs where Computerisation of Land Records, computerisation of Registration process and Integration of Land Records with Registration has been completed as on 27.01.2023 the DoLR in their written reply provided as under:

"As per DILRMP MIS the list of States/UTs where Computerization of Land Records, computerization of Registration process and Integration of Land Records with Registration has been completed as on 27.01.2023 is as follow:

Sl.No.	Component	100% Completion
1	Computerization of Land Records (CLR)	6 States/UTs- Chandigarh, Goa, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura
2	Computerization of Property Registration (CPR)	18 States/UTs- Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chandigarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, NCT of Delhi, Odisha, Puducherry, Telangana, Tripura
3	Integration of Land Records and	14 States/UTs- Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand,

	Property Registration	Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, NCT of Delhi, Odisha, Puducherry, Telangana, Tripura
4	Digitization of Cadastral Maps	12 States/UTs- Goa, Karnataka, Lakshadweep, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, NCT of Delhi, Odisha, Puducherry, Sikkim, Tripura

3.48 When asked by when Land Records of all the States/UTs will be fully computerized and integrated as part of "One Nation One Registration, the DoLR in their written reply submitted:

"The Department aims to implement all components of DILRMP with full pace and complete activities of all components of DILRMP by 31.03.2026. Efforts are being made to complete 'One Nation One Registration' by 2024"

(f) Monitoring & Evaluation

3.49 Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development (DoRD, MoRD) has constituted District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) with a view to fulfill the objectives of ensuring better coordination among elected representatives in Parliament, State Legislatures and Local Governments (Panchayati Raj Institutions/Municipal Bodies) for efficient and time-bound development of Districts in the country. The Committee is mandated to monitor implementation of various programmes, including Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) in accordance with prescribed procedures and guidelines and promote synergy and convergence for bringing about greater impact. In this context, DoLR has already issued advisory to the Principal Secretaries/Secretary(Revenue) of all States/UTs implementing DILRMP with a request to instruct district authorities associated with implementation of DILRMP to actively participate in the DISHA Committee meetings and also keep informed this Department about the ATRs on suggestions/recommendations made by the people's representatives. The reports of the DISHA Committee meetings held in the past could be referred to for necessary action at the Department of Rural Development's website at <https://ruraldiksha.nic.in>.

3.50 A FIVE EYE FRAMEWORK has been envisaged for strong Monitoring and Review mechanism from Central to State to Division to District and upto Sub District of Revenue level. Benchmarking for Evaluation of the programme has been envisioned in Programme Guidelines where apart from Centre for Rural Studies (CRS), LBSNAA,

Mussoorie, involvement of National/International level reputed agencies, and other organizations etc. will be roped in for research and development purpose, information analytics, consultation, collaboration, and other activities.

3.51 The Department conducted two National Review cum Workshops on DILRMP "भूमि SAMVAAD" on 24.06.2022 and 06.12.2022 respectively under the chairmanship of Secretary, DoLR to review the progress made by States/UTs regarding the implementation of DILRMP at National level. Senior Officers from States/UTs participated in the National Workshop and selected States presented their best practices adopted in DILRMP during the workshop.

3.52 When asked whether the current system of monitoring is serving the purpose, the DoLR in their written reply stated that :

"The Digital India Land Record Modernization Programme is being monitored through Management Information Systems (MIS) developed by NIC team, which provides real time monitoring framework and updation of the Programme. The Department is regularly monitoring the implementation of the scheme through National/Regional Review meetings chaired by Secretary, DoLR, DO letters to Additional Chief Secretaries / Principal Secretaries/Secretaries of States/UTs, Video Conferences with States Secretaries, Commissioners and IGRs (Revenue & Registrations) by senior officers of Department. In these meetings, the progress of implementation is reviewed and issues, if any, are suitably addressed. State teams are also asked to participate in separate meeting of DoLR, Delhi to update the progress of DILRMP. Concurrent monitoring is conducted by National Level Monitors (NLM) through field visits. These NLMs are appointed by Ministry as an independent monitor. DISHA is also another medium to assess the implementation of DILRMP scheme in the field. Officers of DoLR regularly visit the States/UTs to review and monitor the progress of DILRMP."

(g) Way Ahead

3.53 An amount of Rs.875.00 crore has been recommended by the EFC for continued implementation of the DILRMP from 2021-22 to 2025-26 which has been approved by Department of Expenditure on 20.12.2021. One or more components in 564 Districts have been sanctioned so far in all States/UTs under the Scheme. The various components/activities are being implemented by the respective State/UTs Department / Agencies as per the concerned State Government's technical, administrative and financial rules and in accordance with the DILRMP Guidelines.

The following new steps have been/are being initiated:

a) Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN)

Presently different states are using different methods for assigning unique IDs to the land parcel in computerization of the land records that renders in a condition where extracting of important information on farmers and land is difficult and cumbersome. To address this issue, the department with the support of MeitY, Science and Technology and NRSC, has evolved a Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) system. The Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) is a 14 digits – Alpha–numeric unique ID assigned to each land parcel based on Geo-coordinates of vertices of the parcel which is of international standard and complies with Electronic Commerce Code Management Association (ECCMA) standard and Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) standard. ULPIN has so far been rolled out in 25 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Goa, Bihar, Odisha, Sikkim, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Haryana, Tripura, Chhattisgarh, Jammu & Kashmir, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, Himachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Kerala. Further, Pilot testing of ULPIN has been done in 7 more States / UTs- Karnataka, Puducherry, Andaman & Nicobar, Manipur, Delhi, Ladakh and Telangana.

(b) National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS)

In order to have a uniform process for registration for deeds/documents, Department of Land Resources through NIC is implementing “**One Nation One Registration Software namely National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS)**” which is an in house developed software under the broad aegis of ‘Computerization of Registration’ a component of the DILRMP that aptly address the diversity prevailing across the states on account of languages, processes, formulae and formats, and includes requirements of all the States and enables user States / UTs to provide ease in interoperability and compatibility with other applications of other sectors. The major benefits of the system include:-

- i. Citizen empowerment through online entry of deed, online payment, online appointment, online admission, document search and certified copy generation.
- ii. Checks on fraudulent /benami transaction
- iii. Reduces document registration process, time and cost at Sub Registrar level.
- iv. Cost effective solution with improved efficiency and transparency achieved in document registration process
- v. Accommodating all variations/gaps prevailing across the states
- vi. SMS and email enabled alerts related to transactions on property.
- vii. Rule based transparent online valuation with accurate calculation of property cost.

NGDRS has so far been implemented in 17 States /UTs namely Punjab, Andaman & Nicobar, Manipur, Goa, Jharkhand, Mizoram, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Jammu and Kashmir, Chhattisgarh, Tripura, Ladakh, Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya and Uttarakhand. Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, NCT Delhi and West Bengal

have started sharing registration data with national portal of NGDRS through User Interface /Web API, thus making total onboarded States / UTs to NGDRS to 22.

(c) Multilingual Land Records - to break linguistic barrier in land Records

Currently, the Record of Rights (RoRs) in each States/UTs are maintained in local languages. The linguistic barriers pose serious challenges to access information and understand them. In order to address the problem of linguistic barriers in land governance, DoLR with the technical support of Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune, under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), has undertaken an initiative to transliterate the Records of Rights available in local language to any of the 22 languages recognized by the Constitution of India.

Pilot test is underway in 8 States - Bihar, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Puducherry, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nādu, Tripura and UT of Jammu & Kashmir and is targeted to launch the aforesaid initiative on Pan-India basis, shortly."

(h) Media & Publicity

3.54 Highlighting importance of public awareness about schemes the Committee asked to know details Media & Publicity done for the awareness regarding Registration procedures in wake of Computerisation of Land Records, the DoLR in their written reply stated that:

"The DoLR exhibited a stall during National Panchayati Raj Day celebrated on 24th April, 2022 at Palli village of Samba District in Jammu & Kashmir in which wide publicity of initiatives like National Generic Documents Registration System(NGDRS) was provided through print material, standees, etc. Further funds were provided to Madhya Pradesh to place a stall to depict the initiatives of DILRMP during Adi Utsav celebrated at Mandla District held on 7-8 May, 2022. The States/UTs have also been directed to run awareness campaigns from fund released under IEC activities. Proposals of States like Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Tripura, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, etc were sanctioned to conduct IEC activities for outreach programme to the people."

3.55 Informing the achievements made and recognition received for it's schemes, the DoLR further stated in their written reply:

"The National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS) is an advance software application for registration process, i.e. developed in house by expert scientists of NIC to reduce time, cost and processes of registering properties. It ensures higher level of transparency in the system and reduces corruption and fraudulent activities in the property transactions. NGDRS has so far been implemented in 17 States/UTs

namely Punjab, Andaman & Nicobar, Manipur, Goa, Jharkhand, Mizoram, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Jammu and Kashmir, Chhattisgarh, Tripura, Ladakh, Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya and Uttarakhand.

It is essential that land systems and land governance in the country be integrated for achieving the larger benefits of the Central/State Governments/Schemes/Programmes. It has been seen that land records related information can be very effective for enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of services/benefits of Central/State Government Departments like Agriculture, Chemical and Fertilizer, Public Distribution System (PDS), Financial Institutions, Agriculture and Farmer Welfare etc. The effectiveness in delivery of services to aforesaid Departments/Agencies/Ministries depends upon the uniformity, interoperability, compatibility for sharing of land records related information among different stakeholders.

A comprehensive integrated land information management system – a single window system for depicting land related information at one place is seen as the main driver for development of infrastructure, economic growth of the country; more so because livelihood of majority of the rural population of our country is dependent on land resources. Moreover, land is not only the principal-asset of individual and valuable resource that affects/connects social, cultural, economic status of the individual/family but also has immense emotive value. Integrated Land Information Management System (ILIMS) has been implemented under DILRMP in 321 districts of the country, which could provide support to other sectors such as Income Tax Department, Banks/FIs for loan/mortgage, Food and Public Distribution for FCI procurement, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare for PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, Chemicals and Fertilizers for Fertilizers Subsidies, etc. and acts as SAARTHI (Supportive Assistance Agent for Reforming And Transforming into Higher Level India).

The Department has been conferred the following awards during the year:

(i) Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration conferred to the Department of Land Resources on 21st April, 2022. The award was received from Hon'ble Prime Minister on the occasion of National Civil Services Day for implementation of NGDRS.

(ii) The Department has been awarded Geospatial World Excellence Award 2022 in Land Administration for Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) at the Geospatial World Forum Summit at Amsterdam, The Netherlands on 12.05.2022.

(iii) Association of Geospatial Industries (AGI) presented the AGI India Awards for excellence in Land Administration to DoLR for the project DILRMP-Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) at India Geospatial Leadership Summit-2022 held during 25-26th April, 2022 in New Delhi."

PART II
OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

The Detailed DFG (2023-24) of the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development) under demand no. 88 were laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 07 February, 2023. The Gross Budgetary support (GBS) for the fiscal year 2020-21 is Rs. 2251.24 Crore. The Committee have examined in detail the Demand for Grants of the Department of Land Resources (DoLR) for the fiscal year 2023-24. Observations/ recommendations of the Committee are detailed in succeeding paragraphs.

Fund allocation during 2023-24

2.1 The Committee note that during the year 2023-24 there has been an increase of only Rs. 156.50 Crore in the Gross Budgetary Support (GBS / Scheme component) of the Department of Land Resources (DoLR) over the BE of previous year. The BE for the year 2022-23 was Rs. 2239.25 Crore and the allocation for this year i.e. 2023-24 has been increased to Rs. 2395.75 Crore which is an increase of just 6.98% over the previous year's BE. The Committee also note that there has been an increase of 10% from Rs. 2000 to Rs. 2200 Crore in the budgetary allocation of Watershed Development Component- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY) whereas BE for Digital India Land Records Management Programme (DILRMP) has been reduced by 18.18% (from Rs. 239.25 Crore to Rs. 195.75 Crore) during 2023-24 as compared to previous year's allocation at BE stage in 2022-23. The Committee, considering the overall performance of these two schemes and their remarkable impact on the ground, feel that the reduction made in the BE component seems to be an imprudent approach as this may cause further delay in expanding the coverage of the

schemes benefitting larger area and population in the country as per the need of the hour. Therefore, the Committee recommend the DoLR to take up the matter at the highest level in the Ministry of Finance seeking higher allocation of fund so that the benefits of the schemes may be provided to general masses at a much faster pace.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 1)

Proper Planning of Budgetary Exercise

2.2 The Committee note that budget estimate during the year 2022-23 for Watershed Development Component of Pradhan mantra Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY) 2.0 was reduced from Rs. 1697 Crore to Rs. 869.084 Crore at RE stage. However, the Department could only spend Rs. 414.25 Crore as on 17.01.2023. The DoLR has stated that the release under WDC-PMKSY 2.0 scheme is based on the proposals received from States/UTs. Projects in most of States/UTs are under preparatory/initial phases and they are taking time to put their requisite physical and administrative setup in place. As per practice and guidelines of WDC-PMKSY 2.0, a period of initial 6-8 months is required to prepare quality DPRs and compilation of Entry Point Activity in order to enter into work phase. Major resources are utilized in work phase (NRM). Further, as per the new guidelines of Ministry of Finance OM dated 31.03.2021, the next tranche would be claimed by the States/UTs only after utilizing 75% of the earlier release. As the Department has made release in last quarter of FY 2021-22 only, and the scheme was in its initial/preliminary stage, the States/UTs were not able to claim funds due to the low utilization of fund already released. Many States/UTs have received Central Share released in FY 2021-22 along with matching State Share in mid 2022-23 only. In this regard, the Department has assured that the remaining funds would be utilized by the end of this financial year. The Committee feel that the late

release of funds in last quarter of 2021-22 has resulted in receiving of these funds by States only by mid 2022-23. As a cascading effect, the Department has to release large chunk of budgetary allocation for 2022-23 during the last quarter. In this regard, the Committee hope that the Department would be able to spend the entire fund allocated at RE stage of 2022-23 on or before 31 March, 2023 as assured by it. The Committee with a view for timely release of funds and execution of envisaged schemes recommend that the Department of Rural Development should gear up its machinery"s overall budgetary exercise with prudent planning in such a way so as to avoid last quarter rush in release of funds which results in late availability of funds and delays in execution of the projects envisaged for the benefits of common masses.

(Recommendation SI. No. 2)

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY)- Coverage of the Scheme

2.3 The Committee acknowledge the positive impacts of the WDC-PMKSY 1.0 scheme in terms of assets created, area brought under protective irrigation including enhancing ground water level and afforestation. The Committee also appreciate the effect of the scheme in checking rural urban migration by creating job opportunities in rural areas. The Committee believe that this scheme has the potential to counter rural distress by reviving rural economy and strongly recommend to increase number of projects by encouraging States to participate actively by submitting more projects for development of rainfed and degraded areas so as to cover larger rural population dependent on farm related activities. The Committee also recommend to allocate more budgetary funds for this scheme so as to identify and implement more watershed projects in the country for the benefit of masses by increasing productivity of rainfed/degraded land through the process of Integrated Watershed Management. (Recommendation SI. No. 3)

Achievement of Targets under WDC-PMKSY 2.0

2.4 The Committee note that the continuation of WDC-PMKSY was approved by Government on 15 December 2021 as “WDC-PMKSY 2.0” with Central Share of Rs. 8134 Cr for development of rainfed and degraded lands for a period from 2021-22 to 2025-26. The target area of WDC-PMKSY 2.0 (4.95 million ha; corresponding to the Central Share of Rs 8134 Crore) was allocated to States/UTs keeping in view the Composite Index of National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) published in their report titled “Prioritization of Districts for Development Planning in India” 2020, and other criteria as per Guidelines with the approval of the Minister of Rural Development. However, from the information furnished by the Department, the Committee note that only 72063.9 hectare area has been developed upto September, 2022. The Committee also note from the reply of the DoLR that the States/UTs are expected to prepare their DPRs and implement the project works in the field to develop the entire targeted area by 2025-26. Further, the Ministry impressed the Committee that in the National Review Meeting and Regional Review Meetings, States/UTs are putting all resources to achieve desired development of rainfed and degraded lands which will benefit the farmers and give boost to the agricultural production in the country by the end of 2025-26. The Committee therefore recommend that the DoLR should make all out efforts to achieve targets fixed for WDC-PMKSY 2.0 within the target year of 2025-26.

(Recommendation SI. No. 4)

Challenges of Sustainability

2.5 The Committee note that on behalf of NITI Aayog an evaluation study was conducted on WDC-PMKSY which found the scheme suitable for continuation. However, keeping in view the observations made in the study and the issues of

sustainability and climate change, it employed National Rainfed Area Authority for formulation of new Guidelines for WDC-PMKSY 2.0, in conformity with environmental sustainability. The Committee therefore recommend that the DoLR should initiate suitable measures to ensure that the projects taken up under WDC-PMKSY 2.0 are environmentally sustainable and no lacuna should surface in this regard. Progress made in this regard be intimated to the Committee.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 5)

Cost Norms of WDC-PMKSY 2.0

2.6 The Committee note that the third party evaluation conducted by the NITI Aayog has also recommended that the cost norms for the scheme should be revised to reflect the current market conditions. The cost norms should be between Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 30,000 per hectare for the plains. In this regard, the Committee find that in respect of WDC-PMKSY 2.0 the revised cost norm of RS. 28,000 per hectare for hilly and difficult areas, Rs. 22000/- per hectare for other areas and upto Rs. 28,000 per hectare for watershed projects in Integrated Action Plan Districts. Hence, the cost norm for plain areas is less than the recommended range of cost norms in third-party evaluation. Since it is essential to link the cost norm to the current market condition, the Committee recommend that the Department should review the adequacy of the current cost norms and increase cost norm for the plains as recommended in the third-party evaluation.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 6)

Protection of the completed project by ensuring plantation on the boundaries (embankments) of the land assets

2.7 The Committee are also of the view that the efficacy of projects under WDC-PMKSY post-completion is completely dependent upon the maintenance and monitoring mechanism. However, while examining the facts and figures of the

Department of Land Resources, the Committee observe that many of the Stop Dam projects are made of concrete where soil erosion starts after one or two years. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend DoLR to do an audit of these structures and involve local / indigenous techniques for creating a longstanding structure. The Committee also recommend to plant trees alongside the boundaries of these completed projects to save them from any damage.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 7)

Inclusion of more projects under WDC-PMKSY 2.0

2.8 The Committee note that though substantial progress has been made under WDC-PMKSY 1.0 in terms of creation of water harvesting, area brought under protective irrigation, increase in plantation, treatment of wastelands etc, the problem of depleting water level is posing a serious threat to life and livelihoods of millions throughout the country. The Committee are very much concerned with the problem echoed by many of its Members and therefore, recommend to include more projects in areas where the water level is depleting in order to recharge dysfunctional borewells by employing suitable water harvesting techniques in affected areas.

(Recommendation Sl.No.8)

Focus on Farm-Ponds and other structures in private land

2.9 The Committee observe that maintenance of assets under WDC-PMKSY demand cooperation from all stakeholders and beneficiaries. It is worth noting that by promoting ownership the fate of the project can be augmented manifolds. In order to ensure long term maintenance, the Committee recommend to focus on creating Farm- Ponds in private farm land where the farmers will take better care of the overall functioning of assets created in their own farmland.

(Recommendation Sl.No.9)

Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP)

2.10 The Committee note from the reply made by DoLR that the Department aims to implement all components of DILRMP with full pace by 31.03.2026. Efforts are being made to complete „One Nation One Registration“ by 2024. The Committee are of the considered view that the project needs an all out effort by DoLR, so that it achieves its desired result in a time bound manner. The Committee acknowledge that the scheme once translated into reality will surely ease the burden associated with land revenue/record procedures. Thus, the Committee urge upon the DoLR to ensure expeditious completion of DILRMP to cover entire country as per schedule fixed.

(Recommendation SI. No. 10)

DILRMP: e-Registration

2.11 The Committee appreciate the initiative of e-Registration alongwith progress made in implementation of all components under DILRMP. While noticing few shortcomings like non-updation of information regarding the status of court cases in column number 12 of Land Records which results in fraudulent transactions, the Committee strongly recommend the DoLR to ensure timely updation of the records with real time data pertaining to all courts including Supreme Court, High Courts, District Court and Local Tehsil level that will help in curbing multiple registration in absence of authentic information and provide title of the property to the actual owners.

(Recommendation SI. No. 11)

Multilingual Land Records

2.12 The Committee note that in order to address the problem of linguistic barriers in land governance, DoLR with the technical support of Centre for

Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune, under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), has undertaken an initiative to transliterate the Records of Rights available in local language to any of the 22 languages recognized by the Constitution of India. According to the Department, a Pilot test is underway in 8 States - Bihar, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Puducherry, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nādu, Tripura and UT of Jammu & Kashmir and is targeted to launch the aforesaid initiative on Pan-India basis shortly. Since the linguistic barriers pose serious challenges to access and understand „Records of Rights“ as they are maintained in local languages, the Committee recommend that this project of transliteration of „Records of Rights“ to any of the 22 languages recognized by the Constitution of India should be implemented in a time-bound manner on pan-India basis. Transliteration of Land Records from Indian languages to English should also be available and necessary steps should be taken by the Department in this regard. Progress made in this regard may be apprised to the Committee.

(Recommendation SI. No. 12)

NEW DELHI;
13 March, 2023
22 Phalgunā, 1944 (Saka)

NARANBHAI J. RATHWA
Chairperson (Acting),
Standing Committee on Rural Development
& Panchayati Raj

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATI RAJ
(2022-2023)

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON
THURSDAY, THE 09th FEBRUARY, 2023

The Committee sat from 1730 hrs. to 1925 hrs. in Committee Room 'C', Parliament House Annexe Building, (PHA), New Delhi.

PRESENT

Smt. Kanimozhi Karunanidhi -- *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri A.K.P. Chinraj
3. Shri Vijay Kumar Dubey
4. Shri Narendra Kumar
5. Shri Janardan Mishra
6. Shri Talari Rangaiah
7. Smt. Gitaben Vajesingbhai Rathva
8. Smt. Mala Rajya Laxmi Shah
9. Dr. Alok Kumar Suman
10. Shri Shyam Singh Yadav

Rajya Sabha

11. Shri Dineshchandra Jemalbhai Anavadiya
12. Smt. Shanta Chhetri
13. Shri Iranna Kadadi
14. Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa

Secretariat

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Shri D. R. Shekhar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Shri C. Kalyanasundaram | - | Director |
| 3. Shri Vinay P. Barwa | - | Deputy Secretary |

**Representatives of the Department of Land Resources
(Ministry of Rural Development)**

- | | | | |
|----|------------------------|---|--|
| 1. | Shri Hukum Singh Meena | - | Additional Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Khilli Ram Meena | - | Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor |
| 3. | Shri P.K. Abdul Kareem | - | Economic Advisor |
| 4. | Shri Sonmoni Borah | - | Joint Secretary (LR) |
| 5. | Shri Umakant | - | Joint Secretary (WM) |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee convened for taking the evidence of the representatives of the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development) in connection with the examination of Demands for Grants (2023-24) relating to Department of Land Resources.

[Witnesses were then called in]

3. After welcoming the witnesses, the Chairperson drew the attention of the Department that whatever the discussions held here would be treated as confidential and not to be made public till the Report of the Committee is presented to Parliament. The Chairperson then broadly mentioned about the scheme-wise funds proposed/allocated by the Department for the year 2023-24 under different schemes and requested the Secretary to brief the Committee thereon. Thereafter, the Secretary, Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development) made a Power Point Presentation *inter-alia* highlighting allocations viz. utilisation of funds in different years so far alongwith the budgetary allocation for the year 2023-24 and the initiatives taken under different schemes of Department of Land Resources.

4. Thereafter, the Members raised queries on issues ranging from adequacy of budget for different schemes/projects, its impact on the implementation of the schemes and the progress made by the Department in this regard, which were responded to by the witnesses.

5. The Chairperson then thanked the representatives of the Department of Land Resources and asked them to furnish written information on points raised by the Members on which the replies were not readily available as soon as possible, to this Secretariat.

[The Witnesses then withdrew]

A verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

The Committee then adjourned.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATI RAJ
(2022-2023)**MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON**
MONDAY, THE 13 MARCH, 2023

The Committee sat from 1530 hrs. to 1555 hrs. in New Committee Room No. 1, Parliament House Annexe Extension Building, Block - 'A' (PHA-Ext. 'A'), New Delhi.

Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa -- *Chairperson (Acting)*

MEMBERS**LOK SABHA**

2. Shri A.K.P. Chinraj
3. Shri Rajveer Diler
4. Dr. Mohammad Jawed
5. Shri Narendra Kumar
6. Shri Janardan Mishra
7. Smt. Gitaben Vajesingbhai Rathva
8. Smt. Mala Rajya Laxmi Shah
9. Shri Vivek Narayan Shejwalkar
10. Dr. Alok Kumar Suman
11. Shri Shyam Singh Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

12. Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla
13. Shri Dineshchandra Jemalbhai Anavadiya
14. Smt. Shanta Chhetri
15. Shri Ram Shakal
16. Shri Ajay Pratap Singh

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Shri D. R. Shekhar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Shri C. Kalyanasundaram | - | Director |
| 3. Shri Vinay P. Barwa | - | Deputy Secretary |

2. At the outset, in the absence of Chairperson, the Committee under Rule 258 (3) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha chose Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa, MP to act as Chairperson for the sitting. The Acting Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee convened for consideration of following three Draft Reports of the Committee:-

- (i) XXX XXX XXX XXX
- (ii) Draft Report on Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development);
- (iii) XXX XXX XXX XXX

3 Draft Reports were taken up for consideration one-by-one and after discussion, the Committee adopted the above Draft Report without any modifications. The Committee then authorized the Acting Chairperson to finalize the aforesaid Draft Reports and present the same to the Parliament at the earliest as the concerned Ministries have been listed in Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha for discussion.

The Committee then adjourned.

XXX Not related to the Draft Report