

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:301
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2002
WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the objectives of Watershed Development Programmes being implemented by the Centre;
- (b) the major Watershed Development Programmes implemented by the Centre; and
- (c) the details of funds allocated to the State of Tamil Nadu under each of these programmes during the last three years and the Current year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATH):

(a) to (c) The Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing three major Watershed Development Programmes namely the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and the Desert Development Programme (DDP) on watershed basis in accordance with the Guidelines for Watershed development w.e.f 1.4 1995. These Programmes aim at developing wastelands/degraded lands, drought-prone and desert areas on watershed basis, keeping in view the capability of land, site-conditions and local needs in order to promote the overall socio- economic development of the resource poor and disadvantaged sections inhabiting the programme areas; mitigate the adverse effects of extreme climatic conditions such as drought and desertification on crops, human and livestock population and restore the ecological balance by harnessing, conserving and developing natural resources i.e. land, water and vegetative cover.

In the State of Tamil Nadu, the IWDP and the DPAP are in operation. No annual allocation of funds is made under these Programmes as these are implemented in a project mode and funds are released to the ongoing watershed projects under the Programmes as and when demanded. In a particular financial year, after taking into account the committed liabilities for the ongoing watershed projects, funds available in the budget for the year are also utilised for sanction of new watershed projects. The details of funds released to the State of Tamil Nadu under the two Programmes during the last three years (1999-2000 to 2001-02) and the current year i.e. 2002-03 are given (year wise) as under:

S.No. Programme Funds released (Rs.in lakhs)

1999-2000 2000-01 2001-02 2002-03

1. IWDP 350.17 718.05 743.00 136.44

2. DPAP 827.30 908.50 864.87 526.50