

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:448  
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2003  
DEVELOPMENT OF WASTELAND  
C. SREENVAASAN;MANJAY LAL

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to mobilise resources for the extensive development of wastelands in the country with external aid;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the States which have sent project proposals for external aid and the regions for which this aid has been requested;
- (d) whether the Government have cleared these projects for external aid;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) if not, the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared; and
- (g) the countries and External Organisations who have provided aid for this purpose and the total amount received for this purpose so far?

**Answer**

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

- (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development is administering the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP). Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) for development of desert & drought prone areas and wastelands/degraded lands. These Programmes are being implemented on watershed basis and have components to develop/reclaim wastelands and degraded lands by checking land degradation and putting such lands to productive use. In order to mobilise maximum resources for development of wastelands, efforts are also made for obtaining external assistance. Presently, the following five projects are under implementation with the assistance of different foreign donor agencies:

- (i) Department for International Development (DFID), UK assisted Andhra Pradesh Rural Livelihoods Project (APRLP) - Project Cost Rs.320.00 crores.
- (ii) Department for International Development (DFID). UK assisted Western Orissa Rural Livelihoods Project (WORLP) - Project cost Rs.230.00 crores.
- (iii) Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) assisted Tree Growers' Cooperatives Project - Project cost Rs.45.99 crores.
- (iv) Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) assisted Attappady Wastelands Comprehensive Environmental Conservation Project - Project cost Rs.219.31 crores.
- (v) European Commission (EC) assisted Haryana Community Forestry Project - Project cost Rs. 126.00 crores.

(c) to (f) in addition to the above ongoing projects, the following four proposals seeking foreign assistance have been received from the Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. These proposals have been supported by the Ministry of Rural Development and sent to Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance. The DEA has forwarded the above proposals to the donor agencies for consideration.

- (i) Project proposal for Watershed Programme by Dutch assistance in five districts of Andhra Pradesh viz. Adilabad, Nizamabad, Medak, Khammam. and Rangareddy- Project cost- Rs. 543.88 crores.
- (ii) Extension Proposal for Dutch assisted APWELL Project to be implemented in 9 districts of Andhra Pradesh viz. Karimnagar,

Nalgonda, Mehboob Nagar, Kurnool. Prakasham, Anantpur. Cudda-pah.Nellore, and Chittoor-Project cost-Rs.431.22 crores.

(iii) Project proposal for Technical Cooperation (TC) component of German assistance towatershed projects in four districts of Andhra Pradesh viz. Medak, Karimnagar, Warangal, and Adiiabad.

(iv) Madhya Pradesh Rural Livelihoods Project proposal for DFID assistance for covering six districts of Madhya Pradesh viz. Jhabua Dindori, Badwani, Mandla. Dhar. and Shahdol in the first phase - Project cost - 17.02 million pound.

(g) Out of the five on-going projects, funds are being released/routed through the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development only in the case of APRLP andWORLP. in other projects funds are being provided to the implementing agencies through the Department of Economic Affairs. Under APRLP, since inception of the project i.e. 2000-01to 2002-2003 funds to the tune of Rs.7183.09 lakhs have been released to the State Govt. Similarly, under WORLP funds to the tune of Rs.555.75 lakhs have been released during the period from 2000-01 to 2002-03.