

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:939

ANSWERED ON:27.02.2006

DEVELOPMENT OF UNUTILISED LAND

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether lakhs of hectares of land is not being utilized in the country and no efforts are being made to make it cultivable;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the developmental work undertaken in this regard during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (d) the reaction of the Government on the works so undertaken?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) to (c): Out of 328.73 million hectare of geographical area of the country, 183.12 million hectare is cultivable land consisting of 141.10 million hectare net sown area, 24.99 million hectare fallow land, 13.66 million hectare cultivable wasteland and 3.37 million hectare land under miscellaneous three crops and groves. The land use other than net sown area is having potential to be used for productive purposes and are being developed under various programmes to bring these areas under cultivation. The main land development programmes being implemented by Govt. of India are -

- (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR),
- (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP & FPR),
- (iii) Reclamation of Alkali Soils (RAS),
- (iv) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA),
- (v) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP),
- (vi) Desert Development Programme (DDP) and
- (vii) Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP), etc. The State-wise physical and financial progress achieved during last three years (2002-05) by Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Rural Development are at Annexure-I and II respectively.

(d): The Planning Commission in the Mid Term Appraisal for X Plan has observed that evaluation studies have shown increase in water level and recharge of ground water aquifers, reduction in soil erosion, increase in cropping intensity, increase in crop productivity, increase in employment generation etc. However it has also made following observations:

- I. Some watersheds are poorly designed and not reached full potential in terms of agricultural production.
- II. Watersheds have not been properly maintained because community involvement waned after the initial development stage.
- III. Despite a plethora of schemes and many years of implementation, the physical progress of treatment of degraded land has been rather slow.
- IV. Greater investment is required for watershed development, rain water harvesting and natural resource conservation.

(Annexure to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 939 on Development of Unutilised Land for 27.02-2006)

Annexure-I

STATEMENT SHOWING PHYSICAL & FINANCIAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES OF MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE DURING LAST THREE YEARS OF X PLAN (2002-2005)

(Physical area in lakh ha & Financial in Rs . Lakh)

S. Name of States	NWDPR	RVP& FPR	WDPSCA	RAS	TOTAL					
No. States	Phys- ical	Fin- ical	Phys- ical	Fin- ical	Phys- ical	Fin- ical				
1.Andhra Pradesh	0.270	1209.77	0.256	2134.25	0.000	0.00	0.526	3344.02		
2.Arunachal Pradesh	0.050	319.73	0.002	5.67	0.028	278.89	0.080	604.29		
3.Assam	0.070	333.00	0.019	148.27	0.117	1005.00	0.206	1486.27		
4.Bihar	0.000	66.95	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	66.95		
5.Chattisgargh	0.450	2075.21	0.101	400.74			0.551	2475.95		
6.Gujarat	0.600	2833.57	0.252	2182.70	0.251	629.55	1.103	5645.82		
7.Haryana	0.040	263.98	0.143	496.18	0.320	818.00	0.503	1578.16		
8.Himachal Pradesh	0.050	460.15	0.114	1840.32			0.164	2300.47		
9.Jharkhand	0.270	2806.48	0.000	0.00			0.270	2806.48		
10.Jammu & Kashmir	0.230	45.94	0.070	912.80			0.300	958.74		
11.Karnataka	0.520	4244.07	1.037	3333.58	0.023	325.65	1.580	7903.30		
12.Kerala	0.130	946.42	0.064	634.85			0.194	1581.27		
13.Madhya Pradesh	1.010	3015.25	0.675	2858.03	0.000	0.00	1.685	5873.28		
14.Maharashtra	0.550	3142.00	0.510	3433.64	0.000	0.00	1.060	6575.64		
15.Manipaur	0.100	611.67	0.000	0.00	0.071	591.00	0.171	1202.67		
16.Meghalaya	0.190	1146.50	0.000	6.00	0.088	850.00	0.278	2002.50		
17.Mizoram	0.220	1630.40	0.024	299.85	0.122	1320.00	0.366	3250.25		
18.Nagaland	0.170	1361.00	0.026	174.00	0.100	1200.00	0.296	2735.00		
19.Orissa	0.330	1416.10	0.055	239.74			0.385	1655.84		
20.Punjab	0.010	68.38	0.000	0.00	0.013	19.81	0.023	88.19		
21.Rajasthan	2.050	9806.95	0.681	4998.33	0.134	171.51	2.865	14976.79		
22.Sikkim	0.080	546.58	0.006	78.20			0.086	624.78		
23.Tamil Nadu	0.840	5022.39	0.137	1710.55	0.021	50.41	0.998	6783.35		
24.Tripura	0.130	820.96	0.012	122.28	0.078	771.00	0.220	1714.24		
25.Uttar Pradesh	0.670	4021.48	1.039	5351.10	0.015	9.92	1.724	9382.50		
26.Uttaranchal	0.460	3208.93	0.098	739.74			0.558	3948.67		
27.West Bengal	0.010	172.92	0.092	483.81			0.102	656.73		
28.Goa	0.030	264.39		0.030		264.39				
29.A&N Island	0.020	120.62				0.020		120.62		
30.D & N Haveli	0.000	0.00				0.000		0.00		
31.Daman & Diu	0.000	0.00				0.000		0.00		
# DVC	0.304	3487.80		0.304		3487.80				
# PM Package to J& K	0.209	1609.46				0.209		1609.46		
# Hd. Quarter		119.00		0.000		119.00				
Total	9.550	51981.79	5.926	37800.89	0.604	6015.89	0.777	2024.85	16.857	97823.42

**NWDPR- National Watershed Development Projects for Rain-fed Areas
RVP & FPR-River Valley Project & Flood Prone River
WDPSCA- Watershed Development Projects in Shifting Cultivation Areas
RAS - Reclamation of Aslkali Soil
ANNEXURE-II**

(Annexure to LoK Sabha Unstarred Question NO. 939 on Development of Unutilised Land for 27.02-2006)

STATEMENT SHOWING PROJECT SANCTIONED AND FUNDS RELEASED UNDER DPAP, DDP AND IWDP SCHEMES OF MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DURING LAST THREE YEARS (2002-05)

(area in lakh ha. Fin .In Rs. Crore)

S.No.	Name of States	DPAP	DP	IWDP			
	Phy No. of Projects	Fin. No. of Projects	Area Fin.				
1	Andhra Pradesh	865	138	330	35.53	1.320	77.89
2	Bihar	188	8.84	0.900	8.72		
3	Chattisgargh	348	47.23	0.836	34.71		
4	Gujarat	741	91.73	873	137.11	1.025	43
5	Haryana	357	52.75	0.350	12.07		
6	Himachal Pradesh	130	13.26	160	18.83	0.580	41.96

7	Jharkhand	296	8.68	0.520	5.19		
8	Jammu & Kashmir	466	28.31	158	22.48	0.550	8.86
9	Karnataka	675	79.84	497	60.42	0.715	61.81
10	Kerala		0.150	5.7			
11	Madhya Pradesh	803	150.31		1.470	87.38	
12	Maharashtra	899	62.65		1.029	32.54	
13	Orissa	452	30.89		0.830	42.82	
14	Punjab		0.154	2.45			
15	Rajasthan	305	49.84	2389	287.66	0.900	49.9
16	Tamil Nadu	464	62.79		1.060	53.03	
17	Uttar Pradesh	478	46.73		1.521	54.33	
18	Uttaranchal	277	19.75		0.504	19.28	
19	West Bengal	176	5.94		0.238	2.39	
20	Goa		0.100	0.83			
	Others	0	0.41		0.000	10	
	Total	7563	845.20	4764	614.78	14.752	654.86

North Eastern States

1	Arunachal Pradesh		1.587	16.15			
2	Assam	3.494	63.73				
3	Manipur	1.145	15.01				
4	Meghalaya	0.420	6.62				
5	Mizoram	1.207	27.41				
6	Nagaland	1.373	53.2				
7	Sikkim	0.344	7.77				
8	Tripura	0.275	4.19				
	Total North Eastern	0	0.00	0	0.00	9.845	194.08
	Grand Total	7563	845.20	4764	614.78	24.597	848.94

DPAP- DROUGHT PRONE AREA PROGRAMME

DDP - DESERT DEVELOPEMENT PROGRAMME

IWDP- INTEGRATED WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Note:- A project under DPAP and DDP generally covers an area of 500 hectares.