

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:718
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2006
FAILURE OF DPAP AND DDP .
Jha Shri Raghunath;Meghwal Shri Kailash

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) The objectives of Drought Prone Areas programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP);
- (b) Whether the Government is aware that these two programmes have failed to achieve their objectives/targets;
- (c) If so, whether the drought prone areas had increased from 55.3 million hectare in 1973-74 to 74.6 million hectare in April 1995 despite incurring an expenditure of Rs.2195 crore;
- (d) If so, the reasons for the failure of these programmes;
- (e) The present status of the programmes as on date, State- wise; and
- (f) The steps taken by the Government for effective implementation and monitoring of these programmes?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA)

(a) to (d) The objectives of Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) are droughtproofing and combating desertification respectively by rejuvenating the natural resource base. With a view to identify the infirmities in the programme to meet its objective and also for considering inclusion of additional areas based on scientific parameters under the programme, the Ministry of Rural Development set up a High Level Technical Committee in the year 1994. The Technical Committee recommended implementation of the programme on watershed approach with community participation and empowerment, as against the sectoral approach followed from 1973 to 1994, and reidentification of DPAP areas on scientific basis. The

Committee identified 74.59 million hectare area under DPAP adopting scientific criteria viz. moisture index, precipitation, extent of irrigation etc. The implementation of revamped DPAP started in 1995-96 in an integrated manner on watershed approach and innovative technology interventions with peoples' participation and community empowerment as guiding principles.

The Ministry of Rural Development commissioned impact assessment studies by different expert agencies to know the impact of the projects taken up under DPAP and DDP in the programme states. These studies completed in 2002 revealed that with the implementation of watershed projects the overall productivity of land and water table had increased and there had been a positive and significant impact on overall economic development in the project areas. The studies also revealed that green vegetative cover had also improved in watershed areas that would have a positive impact in checking soil erosion by water and wind. The availability of fuel wood and fodder had also increased. The impact assessment studies reveal positive outcome of these programmes and potential in achieving the objectives.

Under a project of the Ministry, National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA), Department of Space, Government of India completed mapping of all the wastelands in the country in 1998 and estimated 63.85 million hectares of wasteland in the country. Ministry sponsored another project to NRSA for mapping of wastelands across the country which was carried out over a period of two years during 2003-05. As per the estimates arrived through this exercise, the total extent of wastelands in the country has come down by 8.58 million hectare during this period.

(e) During the period 1995-96 to 2005-06, 24363 projects under DPAP and 13476 projects under DDP have been sanctioned to treat an area of about 12.18 million hectares and 6.74 million hectares respectively under these programmes.

The statewide status of number of projects and area for treatment sanctioned under DPAP and DDP is given in

Annexure I & II.

(f) Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs) and Mid Term Evaluation Reports (MTERs) periodically furnished by the DRDAs/ZPs, DPAP and DDP are monitored through a three tier monitoring system: at the Central level through

(a) Area Officers Scheme

(b) through Performance Review Committee and

(c) through Independent National Level Monitors (NLMs) and District Level Monitors

(DLMs). The State Vigilance and Monitoring Committee periodically review the status and monitor progress of the programme at the State level. At the District level, the District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee monitors the programmes. Social auditing at village level by local stakeholders also play a vital role in monitoring.

Annexure I

Annexure I referred in reply to part (e) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 718 for reply on 28.07.2006.

Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP)

S.No Name of the State Total No. of Area sanctioned
Projects sanctioned for treatment (in
lakh hectares)

1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	3882	19.410
2.	Bihar	453		2.265
3.	Chhattisgarh	1020		5.100
4.	Gujarat	2149		10.745
5.	Himachal Pradesh	365		1.825
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	483		2.415
7.	Jharkhand	1453		7.265
8.	Karnataka	2105		10.525
9.	Madhya Pradesh	2934		14.670
10.	Maharashtra	3180		15.900
11.	Orissa	1146		5.730
12.	Rajasthan	987		4.935
13.	Tamil Nadu	1414		7.070
14.	Uttar Pradesh	1576		7.880
15.	Uttaranchal	737		3.685
16.	West Bengal	479		2.395
	Total:	24363		121.815

Annexure II

Annexure II referred in reply to part (e) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.718 for reply on 28.07.2006.

Desert Development Programme (DDP)

S.No Name of the State Total No. of Area
Projects sanctioned for treatment
sanctioned (in lakh hectares)

1.	Andhra Pradesh	906		4.530
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2. Gujarat	2642	13.210
3. Haryana	1030	5.150
4. Himachal Pradesh	504	2.520
5. Jammu & Kashmir	667	3.335
6. Karnataka	1362	6.810
7. Rajasthan-	6365	31.825
Total:	13476	67.380