

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2800

ANSWERED ON:21.03.2005

CONVERSION OF WASTELAND INTO CULTIVABLE LAND

Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada;Suman Shri Ramji Lal

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any target for converting wasteland into cultivable land in the country was fixed in the Tenth Plan;
- (b) if so, the area of land proposed to be made cultivable as per the target;
- (c) the area of land made cultivable till March, 2004 as per the target, State-wise; and
- (d) the amount spent so far for such conversion of wasteland into cultivable land in each State under the Tenth Plan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Govt. of India is implementing various programmes for the development of degraded lands including wastelands in the country. Under these programmes an area of 209.4 lakh. ha. has been proposed to be developed during the Tenth Plan. The Xth Plan targets under various programmes are as follows:

Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (Lakh ha.)

(i) National Watershed Development Projects in Rainfed Areas 20.00

(ii) Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone Rivers 7.30

(iii) Reclamation of Alkali Soils 1.30

(iv) Watershed Development Projects in Shifting Cultivation areas 0.80

Department of Land Resources

(v) Integrated Wasteland Development Programme 68.00

(vi) Drought Prone Areas Programmes 44.00

(vii) Desert Development Programme 68.00

Total	209.4 (lakh ha.)
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(c) and (d) Statements showing state-wise degraded lands including wasteland developed and the amount spent during the first two years of the Tenth Plan are enclosed as statement-I to VII.