

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3564
ANSWERED ON:10.09.2007
PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT
Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to encourage private investment in watershed development; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): Government recognizes the importance of private investment to increase the growth rate in Agriculture Sector. In the Approach Paper to the 11th Five Year Plan prepared by the Planning Commission of India, it has been stated that the Public Private Partnership (PPP) offers a distinct possibility for increasing total investments by using a limited amount of public resources to leverage a much larger amount of private investment. The Working Group of Sub Committee of the National Development Council on Agriculture & Related Issues, on Dryland/ Rainfed Farming System including Regeneration of Degraded/Wasteland, Watershed Development Programme has also recommended the involvement of private sector in watershed development programmes to the extent possible to give impetus to these watershed programmes. For the XI Five Year Plan the Working Group has recommended development of 38 million ha of lands, out of which 2 million ha is recommended to be developed under Public Private Partnership.