

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF LAND RESOURCES

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2985
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.01.2018

Soil Conservation to tackle Alkalinity

2985. SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken or being taking any steps to formulate action-plans for soil conservation across the country to tackle the growing menace of alkalinity of arable land;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a) to (c): Department of Land Resources has sanctioned 8214 watershed development projects in 28 States (except Goa) [during the period 2009-10 to 2014-15] covering an area of about 39.07 million ha under the Watershed Development Component (WDC) of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) principally for development of rainfed portions of net cultivated area and culturable wastelands.

The activities being undertaken through the watershed development projects *inter alia* include ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rain water harvesting, nursery raising, afforestation, horticulture, pasture development, livelihoods for assetless persons, etc.

State-wise details of number of sanctioned projects, area covered by the projects and Central share released upto 01.01.2018 are given in **Annexure I**.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has launched Reclamation of Problem Soils (RPS) as a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) during 2016-17 for reclamation of problem soils (Alkalinity/ Salinity and Acidity) on pilot basis in 15 States having higher extent of problem soil area. The main objective of the scheme is to reclaim problem soils and to bring such land under crops, horticulture and other plantations so that further expansion of problem area is prevented and after reclamation such land is put to continuous cultivation. The Scheme is being continued during the year 2017-18. State-wise details of the Scheme for the years 2016-17 and 2017-18 are given in **Annexure II & III** respectively.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) through Central Soil Salinity Research Institute (CSSRI), Karnal is addressing the issues related to salinity and alkalinity in the country. The ICAR has developed reclamation technology, salt tolerant varieties of different crops (namely, rice, wheat, and mustard) and agroforestry interventions to improve the productivity of such lands. The CSSRI, Karnal also imparts training, organises Front Line Demonstrations etc. to educate farmers on these aspects.

**Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question
No. 2985 for answer on 04.01.2018**

State-wise details of number of projects, sanctioned area of the projects and funds released for the project

(Area in million ha, Amount in Rs. crore)

Sl. No	Name of the State	Sanctioned (from 2009-10 to 2014-15) [@]		Central share released (from 2009-10 to 2017-18 [#])
		Total no. of Projects	Area of the projects	
1	Andhra Pradesh	432	1.810	848.77
2	Arunachal Pradesh	156	0.467	215.54
3	Assam	372	1.577	349.24
4	Bihar	123	0.612	104.54
5	Chhattisgarh	263	1.195	250.85
6	Gujarat	610	3.103	1136.80
7	Haryana	88	0.362	88.70
8	Himachal Pradesh	163	0.840	259.54
9	Jammu & Kashmir	159	0.652	118.20
10	Jharkhand	171	0.911	162.69
11	Karnataka	571	2.569	1690.74
12	Kerala	83	0.423	89.94
13	Madhya Pradesh	517	2.937	1247.46
14	Maharashtra	1186	5.128	2250.62
15	Manipur	102	0.491	134.96
16	Meghalaya	96	0.236	166.35
17	Mizoram	89	0.373	224.40
18	Nagaland	111	0.476	460.79
19	Odisha	310	1.700	902.14
20	Punjab	67	0.314	52.46
21	Rajasthan	1025	5.764	2030.15
22	Sikkim	15	0.066	22.09
23	Tamil Nadu	270	1.368	834.35
24	Telangana	330	1.399	511.08
25	Tripura	65	0.213	177.65
26	Uttarakhand	65	0.346	114.13
27	Uttar Pradesh	612	3.045	744.56
28	West Bengal	163	0.693	131.76
	Total	8214	39.07	15320.49

[@] Sanctioned under the erstwhile Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), which has been amalgamated as the Watershed Development Component (WDC) of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) with effect from 2015-16.

[#] Upto 01.01.2018, including releases under the erstwhile IWMP.

Note: 1) WDC-PMKSY is not operational in the Union Territories.
2) There is no sanctioned project in Goa.

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2985 for answer on 04.01.2018

Physical and Financial Progress on Reclamation of Problem Soils (Alkalinity/ Salinity and Acidity) during 2016-2017

(Physical in ha & Financial Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Programme approved (Physical)	Total Financial Cost (Centre+States)	Central share released
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1450	221.94	100.00
2.	Assam*	-	-	-
3.	Bihar	816	499.67	150.00
4.	Chhattisgarh	3300	333.00	100.00
5.	Gujarat	4045	2475.60	720.00
6.	Haryana*	-	-	-
7.	Karnataka	825	500.00	150.00
8.	Maharashtra*	-	-	-
9.	Manipur	2900	215.75	97.087
10.	Meghalaya	704	106.78	49.00
11.	Mizoram	1451	222.00	100.00
12.	Nagaland	1480	222.00	-
13.	Odisha*	-	-	-
14.	Punjab*	-	-	-
15.	Tamil Nadu	1100	667.00	200.00
	Total	18071	5463.74	1666.087

*States have not submitted Annual Action Plan (AAP) duly approved by Chairman State Level Sanction Committee (SLSC) of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), therefore, AAP for these states are not approved and Central allocation has also been surrendered during 2016-17.

Annexure III

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question
No. 2985 for answer on 04.01.2018

Physical and Financial Progress on Reclamation of Problem Soils (Alkalinity/
Salinity and Acidity) during 2017-2018 (as on 19.12.2017)

(Physical in ha & Financial Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Programme approved (Physical)	Total Financial Cost (Centre+States)	Central share released
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	740	111.11	50.00
2.	Assam	370	55.55	-
3.	Bihar	416	250.00	75.00
4.	Chhattisgarh	1110	166.67	50.00
5.	Gujarat	3055	1833.33	550.0
6.	Haryana	138	83.33	-
7.	Karnataka	416	250.00	75.00
8.	Maharashtra	835	500.00	-
9.	Manipur	2963	111.11	50.00
10.	Meghalaya	485	55.55	50.00*
11.	Mizoram	740	111.11	50.00
12.	Nagaland	1480	222.00	100.00
13.	Odisha	138	83.33	-
14.	Punjab	833	500.00	-
15.	Tamil Nadu	555	333.33	100.00
	Total	14274	4666.42	1150.00

*Full release
