

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 267
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

BARREN LAND IN STATES

267. SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:
SHRI SANJAY SADASHIVRAO MANDLIK:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the area of barren land out of the total geographical area falling under areas of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand along with the details of its share/percentage in the total area;
- (b) the names of the schemes implemented for converting the said barren land into arable land during each of the last three years;
- (c) the details of the funds utilized for the said purpose during the above period, year-wise; and
- (d) the area of the said barren land converted into arable land through the said schemes?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): As per the latest Land Use Statistics for the year 2016-17, the details of area of Barren and Unculturable land and its share in total geographical area for the states of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand is given in the following table:

State	Geographical Area (thousand hectares)	Barren and Unculturable Land (thousand hectares)	Share of Barren and Unculturable land in geographical area (%)
Maharashtra	30771	1822	5.92
Madhya Pradesh	30825	1344	4.36
Jharkhand	7972	583	7.32

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, MoA&FW

Contd...2/-

(b): As per the Seventh Schedule of Constitution of India, land comes under the purview of State Government and, therefore, it is for the State Governments to take suitable steps for converting barren land into arable land. However, Government of India supplements the efforts of State Governments through various programmes.

Ministry of Rural Development is implementing Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) primarily keeping at Center Stage the rainfed & degraded area development. DoLR has sanctioned 8214 watershed development projects in 28 States (except Goa) including Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand (now 27 States and UT of J & K and Ladakh) from 2009-10 to 2014-15 covering an area of about 39.07 million hectare under Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP). IWMP was amalgamated as the Watershed Development Component (WDC) of PMKSY in 2015-16. 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.

Apart from this, Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed location specific bio-engineering soil & water conservation measure, land management techniques, soil reclamation measures for saline, alkali, waterlogged and acid soils, and selection of suitable crop including agroforestry interventions to reclaim and develop barren lands.

(c): The State wise details of projects sanctioned, area covered by the projects and funds released during last three years and current year as Central share to States (including Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand) under WDC-PMKSY are given at **Annexure-I**.

(d): As per information received from the States, since 2014-15 to 2020-21 (including Q1, 2020), 6.90 lakh water harvesting structures have been created / rejuvenated. An additional area of 14.67 lakh hectares has been brought under protective irrigation. The number of farmers benefited is 31.15 lakh during the said period.

Annexure referred in reply of part (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 267 due for answer on 15/09/20

State-wise details of number of projects sanctioned, area covered by the projects and funds released as Central share under WDC-PMKSY

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

Sl. No	State	Sanctioned (from 2009-10 to 2014-15) [@]		Central share released during the years			
		Total no. of Projects	Area of the projects	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21(As on 10.09.2020)
1	Andhra Pradesh	432	1.810	123.35	139.15	144.390	13.655
2	Arunachal Pradesh	156	0.467	9.62	19.17	55.71	
3	Assam	372	1.577	65.09	66.55	49.03	19.88
4	Bihar	123	0.612	19.21	46.77	88.367	
5	Chhattisgarh	263	1.195	33.45	57.03	47.07	
6	Gujarat	610	3.103	87.51	151.84	77.93	
7	Haryana	88	0.362	10.94	10.00	7.13	6.84
8	Himachal Pradesh	163	0.840	26.83	24.04	66.87	
9	Jharkhand	171	0.911		28.83	36.77	
10	Karnataka	571	2.569	175.69	101.07	21.76	
11	Kerala	83	0.423	17.83	13.06	48.77	
12	Madhya Pradesh	517	2.937	134.84	162.41	221.278	
13	Maharashtra	1186	5.128	279.21	163.33	103.00	
14	Manipur	102	0.491	13.84	14.14	1.46	
15	Meghalaya	96	0.236	8.95	6.69	1.19	
16	Mizoram	89	0.373	22.35	23.14	22.27	
17	Nagaland	111	0.476	32.08	38.51	137.55	1.105
18	Odisha	310	1.700	94.48	102.17	83.11	
19	Punjab	67	0.314	7.96			
20	Rajasthan	1025	5.764	243.59	299.00	119.43	203.4571
21	Sikkim	15	0.066	1.40		2.127	
22	Tamil Nadu	270	1.368	82.75	90.54		
23	Telangana	330	1.399	51.14	81.93	33.50	
24	Tripura	65	0.213	16.66	15.89	10.75	3.87
25	Uttarakhand	65	0.346	9.97	6.98		
26	Uttar Pradesh	612	3.045	63.93			
27	West Bengal	163	0.693	15.48	46.39	92.87	
UTs							
28	Jammu & Kashmir	159	0.652	43.66	71.87		
29	Ladakh						
	Total	8214*	39.07	1691.81	1780.5	1472.332	248.8071

Source: Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development

[@] 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. No new project sanctioned w.e.f. 2015-16. Out of 8214 projects, 1832 projects (345 uninitiated + 1487 preparatory phase projects) were transferred to States to implement with State funds in 2018.
As on 10.09.2020 including releases under the erstwhile IWMP.

Note: 1) J&K and Laddakh have been created as UTs quite recently. WDC-PMKSY has not been taken up in other UTs

2) There is no sanctioned project in Goa.

* Out of 8214 projects, 1832 projects covering an area of 9.47 m.ha has been transferred to States for implementation from States budget.
