

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF LAND RESOURCES

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2381
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2021

Integrated Waste Land Development Programme

†2381. SHRI BALUBHAU ALIAS SURESH NARAYAN DHANORKAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 5.53 crore hectares of land is lying unused despite implementation of Integrated Waste Land Development Programme, Drought Prone Area Programme and Desert Development Programme by the Government in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the Government has reduced the target set in this regard as the funds allocated for making the land arable during the Eleventh Five Year Plan has not been spent and if so, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)

- (a) & (b) As per 'Wastelands Atlas of India' published by National Remote Sensing Centre, Hyderabad, in year 2005, 2010 and 2019 the total wastelands in the country were estimated as below:

Year of publication	Satellite data period	Area of total Wastelands in crore hectares
2005	2003	5.527
2010	2008-09	5.660 [#]
2019	2015-16	5.576*

[#] Wastelands statistics are revised version

*Total Wastelands in the above table is after including unsurveyed area of J & K State (erstwhile), which were not included in the earlier mapping. After excluding unsurveyed area of J & K, total wastelands are 4.645 crore ha for the year 2008-09 and 4.556 crore ha for the year 2015-16.

The Department of Land Resources has fully utilized the budget allocated during the Eleventh Plan. The details of budget allocated and utilized are as below:

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	Revised Estimate	Released/ Expenditure
2007-08	1114.54	1164.54
2008-09	1545.00	1544.00
2009-10	1819.80	1762.65
2010-11	2458.00	2456.73
2011-12	2314.20	2312.09

During the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the target for sanctioning of projects under Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) was 2.265 Crore hectare, against which, projects covering an area of 2.42 crore hectares were sanctioned.
