

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND RESOURCES

**LOK SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2435  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2021

**Wasteland to Arable Land**

**2435. SHRIMATI RANJEETA KOLI:**  
**SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA:**  
**SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:**

Will the Minister of **RURAL DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether arable land in the country is decreasing year by year, if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year along with the steps taken by the Government to prevent the decline of arable land;
- (b) the total area of arid land in Bihar at present and its percentage share out of the total land;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to convert barren land into arable land, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?
- (d) the details of the schemes implemented by the Union Government to convert arid land/barren land into agricultural/arable land during the last three years particularly in Bihar;
- (e) the amount of fund allocated and utilized in this regard, year-wise;
- (f) the area of total arid land converted into agricultural land so far with the help of above mentioned works and funds allocated; and
- (g) whether the Union Government has been getting cooperation of the State Governments for converting wasteland into arable land, if so, the details thereof along with the details of the works carried out in this regard during the last three years, State-wise and if not, the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) The details of Arable land, as per the publication on Land Use Statistics for 2017-18 (latest available), provided by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare are given as **Annexure I**. As per this information, slight decrease in the arable land, has been observed from 2014-15 to 2017-18. The Government of India has been implementing, Per Drop More Crop, Har Khet Ko Pani, Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme and Watershed Development Component of PMKSY to prevent the decline of arable land.



(b) According to Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, out of 93.60 lakh hectares of geographical area of Bihar, 4.31 lakh hectares (4.60 %) is barren and unculturable land.

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

The Department of Land Resources has been implementing an area development programme i.e. Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) w.e.f. 26.02.2009 for development of rainfed / degraded areas in 28 States including Bihar (now 27 States and 2 UTs of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh). The major activities taken up under the programme *inter alia* includes ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rain water harvesting, nursery raising, afforestation, horticulture, pasture development, livelihoods for assetless persons. The IWMP has been amalgamated as the Watershed Development Component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (WDC-PMKSY) with effect from 2015-16.

Under WDC-PMKSY (erstwhile IWMP), since 2009-10, Rs. 19926.29 Cr. has been released as Central share to States / UTs including, Bihar. The State / UT & Year-wise details of Central funds released and funds utilized during the last three years, including Bihar, are given as **Annexure II**

(f) to (g) As per the records, between 2014-15 to 2020-21, a total of 15.88 lakh hectares additional area has been brought under protective irrigation in 27 States including Bihar and 2 Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. The State/Year-wise details of Central share of funds released during the last three years are given as **Annexure II**.

The Union Government has been getting cooperation from States / UTs in implementation of the WDC-PMKSY for the development of rainfed / degraded areas. The State/Year-wise details of achievements made under WDC-PMKSY, during the last three years are given as **Annexure III**.

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Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2435 for answer on 03.08.2021

Details of Arable land as per the publication on Land Use Statistics for 2017-18 (latest available)

(in '000' hectare)

STATES/UTs	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
ANDHRA PRADESH	9047	9018	9003	8999
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	423	423	423	424
ASSAM	3364	3343	3337	3302
BIHAR	6579	6578	6572	6573
CHHATTISGARH	5558	5561	5558	5562
GOA	197	197	197	197
GUJARAT	12661	12661	12661	12661
HARYANA	3656	3798	3744	3759
HIMACHAL PRADESH	810	816	813	816
JAMMU & KASHMIR	1075	1077	1078	1081
JHARKHAND	4343	4313	4367	4323
KARNATAKA	12827	12800	12784	12777
KERALA	2266	2250	2247	2246
MADHYA PRADESH	17252	17250	17231	17207
MAHARASHTRA	21099	21062	20748	20751
MANIPUR	390	444	476	453
MEGHALAYA	1056	1008	1015	1013
MIZORAM	367	367	367	368
NAGALAND	694	695	694	694
ODISHA	6784	6648	6690	6745
PUNJAB	4230	4245	4237	4235
RAJASTHAN	25511	25504	25496	25493
SIKKIM	97	97	97	97
TAMIL NADU	8112	8110	8110	8110
TELANGANA	6877	6870	6752	6770
TRIPURA	272	272	271	271
UTTARAKHAND	1549	1547	1546	1550
UTTAR PRADESH	18939	18863	18848	18826
WEST BENGAL	5655	5648	5633	5625
A&N ISLAND	28	28	28	28
CHANDIGARH	1	1	1	1
D & N HAVELI	24	24	24	24
DAMAN & DIU	3	3	3	3
DELHI	53	53	53	53
LAKSHADWEEP	2	2	2	2
PUDUCHERRY	29	29	29	29
<b>ALL INDIA</b>	<b>181829</b>	<b>181603</b>	<b>181133</b>	<b>181065</b>

Source: Directorate of Economics & Statistics, DA&FW

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Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) to (g) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2435 for answer on 03.08.2021

State/ UT-wise details of funds released as Central assistance and expenditure incurred during three years under WDC-PMKSY

(Amount in Rs. crore)

Sl. No.	States / UTs	Central assistance released			Expenditure incurred*		
		2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
1	Andhra Pradesh	139.15	144.39	43.89	248.11	128.50	170.66
2	Arunachal Pradesh	19.17	55.71	5.80	10.61	21.45	65.82
3	Assam	66.55	49.03	169.26	65.56	90.43	116.56
4	Bihar	46.77	88.367	0.00	18.45	33.84	125.76
5	Chhattisgarh	57.03	47.07	0.00	63.45	55.74	59.59
6	Gujarat	151.84	77.93	0.00	115.01	153.00	110.00
7	Haryana	10.00	7.13	13.68	19.46	23.20	19.23
8	Himachal Pradesh	24.04	66.87	0.00	30.16	15.41	26.57
9	Jharkhand	28.83	36.77	41.92	23.92	28.45	41.94
10	Karnataka	101.07	21.76	6.16	306.90	121.13	27.22
11	Kerala	13.06	48.77	0.00	14.49	19.30	28.31
12	Madhya Pradesh	162.41	221.27	84.90	212.80	178.36	381.80
13	Maharashtra	163.33	103.00	0.00	137.20	135.39	129.17
14	Manipur	14.14	1.46	0.00	16.53	14.66	8.09
15	Meghalaya	6.69	1.19	0.00	9.52	10.31	3.15
16	Mizoram	23.14	22.27	0.00	28.08	35.64	3.87
17	Nagaland	38.51	137.55	3.53	42.69	118.98	39.57
18	Odisha	102.17	83.11	1.75	115.58	100.22	175.42
19	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.25	2.54	9.32
20	Rajasthan	299.00	119.43	449.89	487.26	426.60	520.68
21	Sikkim	0.00	2.12	0.00	0.74	0.38	1.52
22	Tamil Nadu	90.59	0.00	0.00	99.68	87.44	20.17
23	Telangana	81.93	33.50	60.34	115.29	85.16	42.30
24	Tripura	15.89	10.75	11.74	16.65	17.12	23.74
25	Uttarakhand	6.98	0.00	0.00	10.87	6.43	5.02
26	Uttar Pradesh	0.0	0.00	0.00	106.63	30.98	0.57
27	West Bengal	46.39	92.87	0.00	69.39	59.88	109.58
28	^UT of Jammu &	71.87	0.00	91.21	42.15	22.08	36.34
29	UT of Ladakh	0.00	0.00	6.15	0.00	0.00	1.85
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1780.55</b>	<b>1472.32</b>	<b>990.22</b>	<b>2430.43</b>	<b>2022.62</b>	<b>2303.82</b>

Note: There is no sanctioned project in Goa.

^ Figures relating to UT of Jammu & Kashmir at Sl. No.28 are composite figures for the UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh upto 2019-20.

\* Expenditure reported includes, Central share, State share, Misc. receipts and expenditure made from funds released in previous years. The expenditure figures may differ after the audit.

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**Annexure referred to in reply to part (f) to (g) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2435 for answer on 03.08.2021**  
 State-wise details of WHS created/rejuvenated, additional area brought under protective irrigation, farmers benefitted and area brought under plantation under WDC-PMKSY during 2018-19 to 2020-21

Sl. No.	States	WHS created/ Rejuvenated (in Nos.)	Additional area brought under irrigation (ha.)	Farmers benefitted (in Nos.)	Area brought under plantation (Horti./ Afforestation) (in ha.)	Area of culturable wasteland treated in completed project (in ha.)
1	Andhra Pradesh	21285	73128.00	93561	655.00	9829.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	199	4543.00	5198	5272.00	35.00
3	Assam	3288	55703.21	134340	1861.57	10087.66
4	Bihar	3320	8618.98	31166	145.50	3539.66
5	Chhattisgarh	3909	12600.13	28167	948.67	1028.53
6	Gujarat	30723	9286.85	50313	9917.75	5821.02
7	Haryana	1118	10294.00	5243	375.00	0.00
8	Himachal Pradesh	2284	1466.29	16695	611.27	0.00
9	Jammu & Kashmir ^	5775	12422.89	44294	25.00	1157.04
10	Jharkhand	1395	1987.00	71489	4.00	24490.40
11	Karnataka	6011	21934.00	50697	52929.00	12119.00
12	Kerala	17322	9939.71	97594	1032.15	425.64
13	Madhya Pradesh	15273	70705.33	80965	25.70	6453.74
14	Maharashtra	5802	49502.18	91643	1786.66	10466.40
15	Manipur	2872	616.59	26590	1841.49	11681.20
16	Meghalaya	518	350.41	8738	3098.97	2.24
17	Mizoram	3597	4455.83	12618	3034.68	1759.22
18	Nagaland	1614	2694.50	9224	43178.65	4665.59
19	Odisha	7751	19098.64	46179	528.90	8339.65
20	Punjab	412	553.00	4643	0.00	4278.00
21	Rajasthan	70372	53288.00	212900	2994.00	131199.00
22	Sikkim	0	0.00	0	123.00	0.00
23	Tamil Nadu	12174	64159.47	76188	12958.57	30744.19
24	Telangana	9136	31603.00	39787	0.00	4479.00
25	Tripura	1653	811.49	6048	1233.80	2380.06
26	Uttar Pradesh	4959	27735.00	174005	940.68	25732.00
27	Uttarakhand	477	141.61	3061	56.34	0.00
28	West Bengal	7453	12371.00	70573	2890.00	10762.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>240692</b>	<b>560010.11</b>	<b>1491919</b>	<b>148468.35</b>	<b>321475.24</b>

Note: As per information received from States

^ Refers to erstwhile State of J&K upto 2019-20.

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