

(f) In some States such as Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal, the DRDAs have been merged with the Zilla Parishad/District Panchayat and function as a separate cell maintaining separate identity and separate accounts.

DPAP in Madhya Pradesh

||2918. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent for any proposal under Drought-Prone Area Programme (DPAP);

(b) if so, the amount involved in the proposal and whether it is still pending with his Ministry;

(c) whether any time-frame has been set for the disposal of the proposal; and

(d) whether due to the process of approval to the proposal being time taking, the possibility of costs escalation is higher?

THE MINISTER OF STATES IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI): (a) to (c) Since 26.02.2009, Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP), and Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) of the Department of Land Resources have been consolidated into a single programme called as Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP).

Under IWMP, the projects are sanctioned by the State Level Nodal Agency (SLNA) as per the criteria for selection of watersheds given in the Common Guidelines 2008. The funds are being released by Department of Land Resources as per the projects sanctioned by the SLNA. So far, Madhya Pradesh SLNA (Rajiv Gandhi Mission for Watershed Management, Bhopal) has sanctioned 103 projects in 30 Districts under IWMP during 2009-10 covering an area of 6.01 Lakh ha. with a total cost Rs. 721.79 crore. An amount of Rs.38.98 crore as Central Share of part of 1st installment for these 103 projects has been released during the current financial year to the State.

However, funds are being released to the earlier sanctioned on-going, DPAP projects. So far, a total of 79 proposals involving Rs.40.32 crores under DPAP have been received in the Department from Govt. of Madhya Pradesh for release of funds. Out of 79 proposals, 40 proposals involving Rs.27.56 crores have been released. 8 proposals involving 3.67 crore are under process for release. The remaining 31 proposals involving Rs.9.09 crore are pending with Department for the want of clarification/documents etc. The same has been conveyed to State Govt. These pending proposals will be processed for release as soon as clarification/documents are received from the State Govt.

||Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (d) There is no provision for cost escalation in the Guidelines of the Programme.

Beneficiaries of NREGA in Gujarat

2919. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of districts selected in Gujarat for extending benefit under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) so far;
- (b) the number of districts to be selected by end of March, 2010 in the State; and
- (c) the number of households benefited under the Act in the country along with number of beneficiaries in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) All districts of Gujarat have been covered under NREGA with effect from 1.4.2008.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) Total number of households provided employment under NREGA in the country and those in Gujarat are as under;

	Total number of households provided employment			
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (up to October, 09)
Entire country	20984179	33889122	45112792	35179980
Gujarat	226269	290691	850691	1078886

Parameters of Rural Sanitation Scheme

2920. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the broad parameters of the rural sanitation scheme;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that fund is allocated by the Central Government under this scheme to the State Governments;
- (c) whether the scheme is envisaged to give special thrust to the villages with the population of SC/ST majority; and
- (d) if so, whether priority work be given to village Nandla, district Shimla, Himachal Pradesh which has sizeable number of Scheduled Caste population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI AGATHA SANGMA): (a) The Government of India administers the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), a comprehensive programme to ensure sanitation facilities in rural areas with the main goal of eradicating the practice of open defecation and ensuring clean environment. The main