

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(2020-2021)

14

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

**MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(DEPARTMENT OF LAND RESOURCES)**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(2021-22)**

FOURTEENTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(DEPARTMENT OF LAND RESOURCES)

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

(2021-22)

Presented to Lok Sabha on 09.03.2021

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 09.03.2021



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

March, 2021/Phalguna, 1942 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(2020-2021)**

Shri Prataprao Jadhav -- Chairperson

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- | | | |
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| 2. Shri A.K. Shah | - | Director |
| 3. Smt. Emma C. Barwa | - | Additional Director |
| 4. Shri Atul Singh | - | Assistant Executive Officer |

* Vacancy created due to retirement of MP (RS), Shri Shri Nazir Ahmed Laway w.e.f. 15.02.2021.

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2020-2021) having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present the Fourteenth Report on Demands for Grants (2021-22) of the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Land Resources).

2. Demands for Grants have been examined by the Committee under Rule 331E (1) (a) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

3. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development) on 15 February, 2021.

4. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on March, 2021.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officials of the Ministry of Rural Development (Land Resources) for placing before them the requisite material and their considered views in connection with the examination of the subject.

6. The Committee would also like to place on record their deep sense of appreciation for the invaluable assistance rendered to them by the officials of Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

NEW DELHI;
08 March, 2021
17 Phalgun, 1942 (Saka)

PRATAPRAO JADHAV
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Rural Development

REPORT
PART I
NARRATION ANALYSIS
Chapter I

Introductory

(a) Role of Department of Land Resources

Department of Land Resources had been implementing Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) since 2009-10 for development of 39.07 million ha. rainfed and degraded areas in the country. In 2015-16, IWMP was amalgamated as the Watershed Development Component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY). The activities being undertaken inter alia include ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rain water harvesting, nursery raising, afforestation, horticulture, pasture development, livelihood for assetless persons etc. It also supports States/UTs for implementation of Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) with the aim to achieve a comprehensive land governance system known as Integrated Land Information Management System and (3) to administer land reforms and other related matters relating to land such as administration of the Right to Fair Land Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (RFCTLARR), the Registration Act, 1908.

(b) Overview of Demands for Grants (2021-22) of Department of Land Resources

The Demand No.87 containing the Demands for Grants (2021-22) relating to Department of Land Resources laid on the Table of the House on 09.02.2021 provides for Rs. 2,170.42 cr. for implementation of two schemes with funds shown against each:

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount (Rs. in cr.)
	Scheme Funds	
1.	Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY)	2000.00
2.	Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP)	150.00
	Total	2150.00
	Non- Scheme Funds	
	Secretariat	20.42
	Grand Total	2170.42

CHAPTER II

(a) Outlays vis-à-vis expenditure

During the course of evidence of representative of DoLR the Committee pointed out the following BE, RE and actuals during 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 and BE (2021-22) and amount surrendered:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actuals	Amount surrendered w.r.t. BE
2018-19	2511.40	1996.10	1873.59	637.80
2019-20	2227.27	1900.00	1535.12	692.84
2020-21	2251.24	1252.15	861.19 (as on 05.01.2021)	
2021-22	2170.42			

2.2 Asked about the reasons for the downsizing of BE at RE, any revamp contemplated for proper utilisation of fund and course correction undertaken if any, the Department of Land Resources (DoLR) in their written reply stated as under:-

"WDC-PMKSY: Budget Estimate (BE) / Revised Estimate (RE) in a financial year is firmed-up as part of the overall budgetary exercise. The reduction of budget at RE is mostly due to less release of central funds till the time of review of schemes by Department of Expenditure in the month of September/October. Less release to States / UTs usually happens because of non-receipt of complete release proposals from them. In addition, the release of Central funds is based on the Annual Action Plans submitted by the States/UTs, which is approved by the State Level Sanctioning Committee. In majority of States, SLSC meetings are held quite late, in the third quarter of the financial year almost in 2nd/3rd quarter of the financial year. Department of Land Resources is regularly reviewing the progress of utilization of funds under the scheme with the States. D.O. letters to Chief Secretaries / Secretaries of States are written. Regional Review Meetings with Senior Officers of States, Video Conferences with CEOs, State Level Nodal Agency (SLNA) and Field visits to States by Senior Officers of Department are undertaken on regular basis. In these meetings also, it is emphasized to ensure timely convening of SLSC meetings and submission of release proposals complete in all respects to enable the Department to release Central Share of funds at the earliest. In order to have a comprehensive concurrent monitoring and impact assessment of the programme / schemes implemented by the department, four Zonal Monitoring Committees have been constituted each headed by Joint Secretary level officer in the Department for undertaking field visits to cover all States and UTs.

DILRMP

During 2018-19 and 2019-20 (upto 3.1.2020), fund release was permitted on reimbursement basis on account of which most of the States/UTs were unable to spend funds from their own exchequer. Funding pattern was restored from reimbursement basis to advance basis w.e.f 3.1.2020 along with restoration of some components. Subsequently, substantial releases have been made during 2019-20 (3.1.2020 to 31.3.2020) and during 2020-21 till date. Hence, for FY 2020-21, there is negligible reduction at RE stage i.e BE – Rs. 238.65 Cr. and RE – Rs. 238.00 Cr. The Department made endeavors for restoration of funding pattern from reimbursement basis to advance basis which was agreed to by M/o Finance w.e.f 3.1.2020. DILRMP has been converted from Centrally Sponsored Scheme to Central Sector Scheme with hundred per cent funding by the Centre from 1.4.2016. Further, to accelerate the pace of implementation, the funding pattern was restored from Reimbursement Basis to Advance Basis w.e.f 3.1.2020. Number of innovative initiatives have been taken to enhance the effectiveness of the service deliveries in land governance. These initiatives *inter alia* include: -National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS, an advance version of software application for registration process), Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN), Integrated Land Information Management System (ILIMS)."

Over-all Programme wise Outlays-Expenditure

(Rs. in crore)

Year	WDC-PMKSY			DILRMP			TOTAL		
	BE	RE	Releases	BE	RE	Releases	BE	RE	Releases
2018-19	2251.00	1841.00	1795.43	250.00	145.00	68.09	2501.00	1888.00	1863.52
2019-20	2066.00	1732.97 (Including Neelanchal)	1478.45	250.00	50.00	43.77	2316.00	1782.97	1522.22
2020-21	2000.00	1000.00	654.36	238.65	238.00	196.98 (upto 05.01.2021)	2238.65	1238.00	852.34
2021-22	2000.00			150.00			2150.00		

In addition Rs.105.00 crore provided for Neelanchal Project closed w.e.f. 22.07.2019, Rs.0.1913 crore spent balance Rs.104.8087 surrendered to Ministry of Finance.

2.2 Asked about the level of utilization during the above period, the DoLR gave the following details:

WDC-PMKSY

The details of the funds allocated (BE, RE), released and percentage of utilization during 2018-19 to 2020-21 upto 09.02.2021 are as below:

(Rs.in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Release	Percentage of RE released
2018-19#	2251.00	1841.00	1795.43	97.52
2019-20	2066.00	1732.97\$	1478.45	85.31
2020-21	2000.00	1000.00	785.70*	78.57

*as on 09.02.2021

Including Neeranchal and releases under professional support etc.

\$ In addition, Rs. 105.00 crore provided for Neeranchal project. This project was closed w.e.f. 22.07.2019. Rs. 0.1913 crore expenditure incurred and the balance amount of Rs. 104.8087 crore was surrendered to Ministry of Finance.

DILRMP – Year-wise details are tabulated below:

Year	Budget Estimate (Rs. Crore)	Revised Estimate (Rs. Crore)	Expenditure (Rs. Crore)	Expenditure %
2018-19	250.00	145.00	68.09	47.00
2019-20	150.00	50.00	43.77	87.54
2020-21	238.65	238.00	201.81 (as on 10.2.2021)	84.79

CHAPTER III

Scheme-wise Analysis

Watershed Development Component of PM Krishi Sichayee Yojana (WDC – PMKSY)

The WDC-PMKSY was launched in 2015-16 by amalgamating the following on-going programmes under different Ministries:

- (i) Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme of erstwhile Ministry of Water Resource, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation now Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- (ii) IWMP under Department of Land Resources
- (iii) Micro-Irrigation component of On Farm Water Management (OFWM) under Ministry of Agriculture.

3.2 The object is to develop rainfed portions of net cultivated area and culturable wastelands of about 39.07 million hectares by way of implementing 8214 watershed projects across 28 States (except Goa) now 27 States and UTs of J&K and Ladakh. The funding pattern is 60:40 between Centre and States and for Hilly States of Himachal erstwhile J&K and Uttarakhand is 90:10 whereas for UTs, it is 100% from Central Government. The BE, RE and Releases during 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 and BE (2021-22) under WDC-PMKSY is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Releases
2018-19	2251.00 Including Neelanchal	1841.00	1795.43
2019-20	2066.00	1732.97	1478.45
2020-21	2000.00	1000.00	654.36

\$In addition Rs.105 crore provided for Neelanchal Project closed w.e.f. 22.07.2019, Rs.0.1913 crore released and unspent balance of Rs.104.8087 Crore surrendered to Ministry of Finance.

Asked about lowering the BE at RE stage and details about level of utilisation, the DoLR gave the following details in their written reply:

"The release of Central assistance to States/UTs is slow because of non-receipt of proposals from States/UTs. This in turn is because of delay in convening of State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) meetings headed by Chief Secretary for approval of Annual Action Plan, which is mandatory for considering the release as per the programme Guidelines. Further, the release proposals received from the States/UTs are also found deficient sometimes in terms of requisite documents / information. Some States/UTs do have huge amount of funds lying unspent which donot allow further release of funds in spite of submission of Annual Action Plan. Department of Land Resources is regularly reviewing the progress of utilization of funds under the scheme with the States. D.O. letters to Chief Secretaries / Secretaries of States are written. Regional Review Meetings with Senior Officers of States, Video Conferences with CEOs, State Level Nodal Agency (SLNA) and Field visits to States by Senior Officers of Department are undertaken on regular basis. In these meetings also, it is emphasized to ensure timely convening of SLSC meetings and submission of release proposals complete in all respects to enable the Department to release Central Share of funds at the earliest. In order to have a comprehensive concurrent monitoring and impact assessment of the programme / schemes implemented by the department, four Zonal Monitoring Committees have been constituted each headed by Joint Secretary level officer in the Department for undertaking field visits to cover all States and UTs. As a result, during current financial year, an amount of Rs. 785.70 crore has been released as on 09.02.2021, which is 78.57 % of the budget provided."

(a) State-wise releases

3.3 During the course of examination, the Committee pointed out that as high as Rs.19,584.23 cr. have so far been released as Central share as on 31.12.2020 since inception of the scheme i.e. 2009-10. The DoLR has also given following State- wise details of funds released during last three years and current year under WDC-PMKSY:

(Rs. in crores)				
S. No.	State	Funds Released to States		
		2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
1	Andhra Pradesh	139.15	144.39	35.60
2	Arunachal	19.17	55.71	

3	Assam	66.55	49.03	169.26
4	Bihar	46.77	88.37	
5	Chhattisgarh	57.03	47.07	
6	Goa	0		
7	Gujarat	151.84	77.93	
8	Haryana	10	7.13	13.68
9	Himachal	24.04	66.87	
10	Jammu &	71.87	0.00	38.82
11	Jharkhand	28.83	36.77	
12	Karnataka	101.07	21.76	6.162
13	Kerala	13.06	48.77	
14	Madhya	162.41	221.278	26.95
15	Maharashtra	163.33	103.00	
16	Manipur	14.14	1.46	
17	Meghalaya	6.69	1.19	
18	Mizoram	23.14	22.27	
19	Nagaland	38.51	137.55	3.531
20	Odisha	102.17	83.11	
21	Punjab	0		
22	Rajasthan	299	119.43	298.176
23	Sikkim	0	2	
24	Tamil Nadu	90.59		
25	Telangana	81.93	33.50	43.870
26	Tripura	15.89	10.75	11.740
27	Uttarakhand	6.98		
28	Uttar Pradesh	0		
29	West Bengal	46.39	92.87	
	Total	1780.55	1472.33	647.789

*As on 31.12.2020.

Note: There is no sanctioned project in Goa

(b) State-wise Utilization

3.4 The Committee pointed out that major beneficiaries of WDC-PMKSY funds are Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. Asked about the level of utilization year-wise, State-wise, the DoLR has furnished State-wise and Year-wise details of funds utilized from 2018-19 to 2020-21 under WDC-PMKSY:

State-wise and Year-wise details of funds utilized from 2018-19 to 2020-21 under WDC-PMKSY (Rs. in crore)					
Sr. No.	State	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21*	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	248.09	160.69	167.33	576.11
2	Arunachal Pradesh	40.73	30.52	65.83	137.08

3	Assam	78.68	89.26	74.59	242.53
4	Bihar	40.20	89.50	68.72	198.42
5	Chhattisgarh	63.45	109.35	55.39	228.19
6	Gujarat	120.00	156.79	73.51	350.30
7	Haryana	19.50	23.20	15.49	58.19
8	Himachal Pradesh	30.16	13.60	22.38	66.14
9	Jharkhand	19.63	28.65	17.32	65.60
10	Karnataka	303.01	114.67	18.71	436.39
11	Kerala	13.73	20.51	18.01	52.25
12	Madhya Pradesh	213.24	180.08	232.96	626.28
13	Maharashtra	220.10	216.50	92.75	529.35
14	Manipur	16.16	14.81	6.79	37.76
15	Meghalaya	9.52	10.23	2.98	22.73
16	Mizoram	28.07	31.88	1.52	61.47
17	Nagaland	43.20	98.09	35.80	177.09
18	Odisha	125.10	103.32	140.17	368.59
19	Punjab	3.94	2.54	4.78	11.26
20	Rajasthan	487.26	607.02	719.82	1814.10
21	Sikkim	0.72	0.35	1.40	2.47
22	Tamil Nadu	145.38	58.24	11.59	215.21
23	Telangana	115.13	95.16	23.01	233.30
24	Tripura	26.09	15.27	14.72	56.08
25	Uttar Pradesh	106.06	0.00	0.64	106.70
26	Uttarakhand	10.87	6.43	4.05	21.35
27	West Bengal	82.14	76.38	89.30	247.82
	Union Territory				
1	Jammu & Kashmir ^	55.06	31.99	21.34	108.39
2	Ladakh			1.23	1.23
Total		2665.22	2385.03	2002.13	7052.38

Note : Expenditure reported are unadmitted.

Expenditure includes Central share + State share + Misc. receipts/interest accrued etc.

* 2020-21 expenditure upto 31.12.2020

^ Expenditure reported for 2018-19 and 2019-20 refers to erstwhile J & K State and for 2020-21, refers to UT of J & K only.

3.5 Asked about any problem regarding delay in getting utilisation certificates from States/ UTs the DoLR clarified that:-

"Submission of Utilization Certificates (UCs) from States/UTs is contingent upon the release of funds from State exchequer to the implementing agency i.e. SLNA. However, majority of States/UTs submit their UCs promptly after getting the funds released from States/UTs finance department. It is further to submit that as per the guidelines without receiving UC from States/UTs, no Central grants can be released. Therefore, no UCs is pending."

(c) Physical Performance

3.6 The Committee during the course of examination pointed out that the following break up of WDC-PMKSY projects as on 31.12.2020:

1.	Total sanctioned projects	8214
2.	Uninitiated Projects transferred to States on 08.02.2018	345
3.	Preparatory Phase Projects transferred to State on 01.08.2018	1487
4.	Projects on Work Phase	1257
5.	Consolidation Phase	409
6.	Completion reported (Administrative Reports of completion)	4716

3.7 Asked about how much time and funds would it take to complete all the on-going WDC – PMKSY projects and whether the on-going projects are running as per schedule or there is any cost and time over run, the DoLR furnished the following details:

"Out of 6382 WDC-PMKSY projects being funded by DoLR, 4743 (74.32 %) projects have been completed by the States, 409 (6.41 %) projects are in consolidation phase and 1230 (19.27 %) projects are in work phase of implementation, as on 08.02.2021. The projects in consolidation phase will be completed by March, 2021 raising the completion percentage to about 81%. Further, out of 1230 ongoing projects in Work Phase, the Department will make all out efforts to get completed all due projects within the time frame prescribed. It is further to submit that the projects sanctioned during 2014-15 have a defined project period upto 2021-22 for which a provision of Rs 2000 crore has been provided in BE 2021-22."

3.8 The Committee enquired whether DoLR is facing the problem of availability of matching share by States for on-going WDC-PMKSY projects, the DoLR stated:

"In many States/UTs, the availability of matching share remains an issue. DoLR has been making extra efforts for getting it released."

(d) Project Implementation

3.9 The DoLR has given the following data about WDC-PMKSY projects:

State-wise status of WDC-PMKSY projects (No. of projects)

Sl. No	State	Total projects sanctioned	Uninitiated Projects transferred to State on 08.02.2018	Preparatory phase projects transferred to State on 01.08.2018	Status as on 31.12.2020 [#]		
					Work phase	Consolidation phase	Completion reported (Administrative reports of completion received)
1	Andhra Pradesh	432	0	59	77	36	260
2	Arunachal Pradesh	156	0	42	101	0	13
3	Assam	372	0	92	54	0	226
4	Bihar	123	0	59	15	0	49
5	Chhattisgarh	263	0	55	27	0	181
6	Gujarat	610	61	60	59	0	430
7	Haryana	88	13	0	37	0	38
8	Himachal Pradesh	163	0	32	65	0	66
9	Jammu & Kashmir	159	0	29	93	37	0
10	Jharkhand	171	28	0	56	0	87
11	Karnataka	571	2	140	28	0	401
12	Kerala	83	0	14	11	17	41
13	Madhya Pradesh	517	3	68	116	15	315
14	Maharashtra	1186	6	156	122	113	789
15	Manipur	102	0	41	11	0	50
16	Meghalaya	96	12	23	0	0	61
17	Mizoram	89	0	40	0	0	49
18	Nagaland	111	0	0	0	33	78
19	Odisha	310	0	76	39	0	195
20	Punjab	67	8	26	17	0	16
21	Rajasthan	1025	41	164	173	46	601
22	Sikkim	15	4	5	0	0	6
23	Tamil Nadu	270	0	0	0	70	200
24	Telangana	330	0	54	85	0	191
25	Tripura	65	0	9	8	19	29
26	Uttarakhand	65	0	3	21	0	41
27	Uttar Pradesh	612	125	238	0	0	249
28	West Bengal	163	42	2	42	23	54
Total		8214	345	1487	1257	409	4716

As per the information received from States.

3.10 Asked about the reasons for large number of projects that are at Work Phase and 'Consolidation Phase' in various like Rajasthan, Maharashtra, etc and by when these are likely to be completed, the DoLR replied;

"Out of the total watershed projects sanctioned, about 38.48 % projects have been sanctioned in the states of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh. Further, the pace of implementation in these States is also good. Similarly, out of 4716 projects reported complete upto 31.12.2020 in the country, 41.66 % projects completed account for only these States. Out of 6382 WDC-PMKSY projects being funded by DoLR, 4743 (74.32 %) projects have been complete by the States, 409 (6.41 %) projects are in consolidation phase and 1230 (19.27 %) projects are in work phase of implementation, as on 08.02.2021. The projects in consolidation phase will be completed by March, 2021 raising the completion percentage to about 81% . Further, out of 1230 ongoing projects in Work Phase, the Department will make all out efforts to get completed all due projects within the time frame prescribed. The projects sanctioned during 2014-15 (total 118 Nos.) have a defined project period upto 2021-22."

As per DOLR, there are 1666 ongoing WDC-PMKSY projects in the country.

3.11 The Committee enquired that as regard completed projects almost all States have fared well barring Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Kerala, Punjab and Sikkim. Asked about the reasons that these States are lagging behind and In what way, DOLR may help out these slow moving States to move on in line with fast moving States; the DoLR replied:

"In the States of Bihar and erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir, no project was sanctioned in I and II Batches. The first lot of projects was sanctioned in these States in 2011-12 (Batch-III) only, which had the sanctioned project period upto March 2019. On the request of various States, DoLR has extended the project period of Batch-III projects upto August, 2020 and Batch IV upto March, 2021 for completion. The project completion reports from these two States are being received from March 2020 onwards. In case of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Punjab and Sikkim, in spite of best efforts by the Department, the progress of implementation remained very slow. There is lack of focus and priority to WDC-PMKSY on part of State Governments. The funds released by DoLR to the State Governments during a particular financial year are not timely transferred to the respective SLNAs for project implementation, which hampers the release of Central funds in the subsequent year also."

(e) **Workdone**

3.12 During the course of examination the DoLR has furnished the following progress of workdone on different indicators of **WDC-PMKSY** so far from 2015-16 to 2020-21 (Q3):

Sl. No.	Indications	Progress of workdone
1.	Number of Water Harvesting Structure	6.01 lakh
2.	Additional Area brought under projective irrigation (no.)	13.30 lakh
3.	Number of Farmers benefited	28.04 lakh
4.	Area brought under plantation (Afforestation, horticulture etc.) in lakh no. @	1.44lakh
5.	Area of culturable wastelands treated in completed watershed development projects (in lakh has)@	2.80 lakh
6.	Number of Mandays generated (in lakh man days)@	15.59 lakh

@Information on these indicative collected from 2018-19 onward.

3.13 The Committee pointed out that, the Department of Land Resources has stated that monitoring of WDC-PMKSY is done by SRISHTI geo spatial Portal since 2015 wherein 14.85 lakh geo coded and time stamped photographs have been uploaded by State Governments as on 31.12.2020. Asked about the Public awareness and role of MPs in WDC-PMKSY projects, during the process of Geo coding stamping and of photography for making the process truly representative and transparent in character, DoLR in their written note stated:

"Shristi Geo-portal has been developed for Watershed visualization, monitoring and evaluation activities. It also provides platform for work activity planning. User can perform asset moderation depending on the login. The Bhuwan IWMP- Shristi Portal could also be logged in as a citizen. The details could be seen in the Srishti Portal. The people living in a particular Project area are aware of the activities and development being carried out at the Project area. The data are being provided by WDCs/SLNAs. The concerned SLNAs have access to the data base of the particular State and they upload the data as well as edit/ modify the data. Login access are provided to States/ DoLR for monitoring the projects."

3.14 During the course of evidence of the representative of Department of Land Resources the Committee pointed out exploring the possibility of sanctioning WDC-PMKSY projects in water logged areas, the DOLR in a post evidence reply stated:

"Water-logged lands are those areas where water is on the surface or near the surface of land and it stays there for most of the year. Water logging clogs the soil pores and thus restricts normal vital circulation of air inside the soil. When the water table rises up to 2 m and above the ground surface and stays at a considerable period of times (months together), it is called the problem of water-logging. Immediately after the monsoon rains, vast tracts of land are subjected to surface flooding which may lead to water-logging.

Waterlogged soils are basically problematic soils treated under land reclamation schemes and involve intensive treatment which is not feasible under WDC-PMKSY cost norms. WDC-PMKSY is primarily concerned with improvement of rainfed and degraded lands."

3.15 During the course of evidence of representatives of Department of Land Resources, the Committee pointed out opening of WDC-PMKSY projects in areas witnessing low water table, the DoLR in a post evidence reply submitted before the Committee:-

"With reference to taking up project areas under WDC-PMKSY, it is submitted that one of the criteria adopted for prioritization and selection of watershed projects in State/UTs was ground water status. Similarly, necessary provisions for attaching due priority to the areas witnessing low water table have already been duly incorporated in the revised Draft Guidelines for watershed projects to be followed under proposed new generation WDC-PMKSY."

3.16 The Committee also pointed out promoting afforestation with fruit growing trees with low water intake like Amla tree for revenue generation instead of ordinary plants in WDC-PMKSY project areas, the DOLR in a post evidence reply submitted before the Committee:-

"As per the Common Guidelines, the important activities undertaken during the work phase inter alia include, nursery-raising for fodder, fuel, timber and horticultural species. As far as possible local species are given priority. Land development including in-situ soil and moisture conservation and drainage management measures like field bunds, contour and graded bunds fortified with plantation, bench terracing in hilly terrain, etc. Crop demonstrations for popularizing new crops/varieties, water saving technologies such as drip irrigation or innovative management practices. Accordingly, the focus is already on growing of local horticultural crops / fruit trees having less water requirement suitable for rainfed conditions. Few example, drumstick in Karnataka, cashew nut in Odisha and Karnataka, pineapple & Rubber plantation in Tripura and Nagaland, pomegranate in Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Ber in Rajasthan, Amla in Rajasthan & Karnataka, Guava in Jharkhand, Mango in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka etc. This has also been seen during the field visits of senior officer to the project areas in various States."

3.16A On the issue of provision of funds for damaged dams consequent upon excessive rains that did not get any funds for necessary repairs, the DOLR in post evidence reply stated:

"The Govt. of India introduced flexi-funds component within Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) from the year 2014-15. Accordingly, DoLR decided to implement flexi-fund component under WDC-PMKSY from the financial year 2015-16 onwards with the following objectives; (i) to provide flexibility to States to meet local needs and requirement within the overall objective of Scheme at the sub-head level; (ii) to pilot innovations and to improve efficiency within the overall objective of scheme at the sub-head level; (iii) to undertake mitigation/restoration activities in case of natural calamities, or to satisfy local requirements in areas affected by internal security disturbances. Subsequently, based on the recommendations of the Sub-Group of the Chief Ministers and consultations with other stakeholders and with the approval of the Cabinet, NITI Aayog had issued instructions on the rationalization of CSS vide letter dated 17th August, 2016. wherein *inter alia*, the Flexi-Funds available in each CSS was raised from the level of 10% to 25% for States and 30% for UTs of overall annual allocation under each scheme so that implementation can be better attended to the needs of individual State / UT. The Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance vide letter dated 06.09.2016 and 15.06.2018 issued instructions to operationalize these guidelines. Accordingly, DoLR enhanced the flexi-funds component from 10% to 25% for States under WDC-PMKSY. In accordance with the Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects-2008 (Revised in 2011) homogenous groups of people likely to derive direct benefits from a particular watershed work or activity including those having land holdings within the watershed areas are constituted into User Groups by the Watershed Committee (WC). The User Groups have been envisaged to be responsible for the operation and maintenance of all the assets created under the project in close collaboration with the Gram Panchayat and the Gram Sabha. They are responsible for maintenance of Asset Register under Watershed Development Projects and put in place mechanism through WC for collecting user charges which is then credited into the Watershed Development Fund (WDF). This fund is used for the maintenance of assets created during the implementation of project on the community land or for the common use.

In addition to the user charges, following beneficiary contributions are also credited into the WDF account:

- a) 10% of the cost of NRM works executed on private land (5% of the cost of NRM in case of SC/ST, small & marginal farmers).
- b) 20% of the cost in the cost intensive farming systems activities / interventions on private lands (10% of the activity cost for SC/ST beneficiaries).

After completion of the Works Phase, at least 50% of the WDF funds shall be reserved for maintenance of assets created on community land or for common use under the project. Works taken up on private land shall not be eligible for repair / maintenance out of this fund. The Department vide its letter

No.H-11016/15/2010-PPC dated 20.05.2019 had circulated the modal Guidelines for utilization of WDF funds to all States for adoption or modifications as per State specific needs for effective utilization of WDF for sustainable post-project maintenance of the assets / structures created under the project with the broad frame work of Common Guidelines.

Further, the Department vide letter No. S-11012/01/2020-IWMP dated 21.02.2020 has again advised the States to formulate the said guidelines on WDF utilization (wherever still pending) and circulate them to all the concerned officials including watershed committees for necessary compliance. The States have also been advised to explore the ways to undertake the post project maintenance of the assets created under WDC-PMKSY projects through convergence with MGNREGS and other relevant schemes and this provision may be suitably incorporated as one of the options in the WDF Guidelines.

(f) Impact of WDC-PMKSY Evaluation Reports from States and views of NITI Aayog thereon

3.17 During the course of examination the Committee pointed out that about 2356 end line evaluation Reports as on 31.12.2020 indicating significant improvement in availability of surface and ground water, increase in productivity etc. in projects across like increasing water table 0.2m. to 3m., enhancing cultivated area from 2.29% to 30% increasing crop integrity from 3.23% to 18.30% incurring milk production from 14% to 40% and increasing average amount income from 8.28% to 70.13%. It also spoke about submission of an interim report by NITI Aayog expressing satisfaction thereon with final Report yet to come.

3.18 Asked about the process of verification of the findings of these end line evaluation reports submitted by States and whether any independent agency for this for getting the ground reality, the DoLR replied:

"The Department monitors the progress of works under watershed projects through the instruments of Review Meetings, Management Information System (MIS), progress reports, utilization certificates, Audited Statement of Accounts, etc. The Department holds Steering Committee Meetings & Regional Review Meetings under the Chairpersonship of Secretary (LR) to monitor the Programme. States have contracted independent agencies that monitors the implementation of the projects which includes process and input-output monitoring. At the State-level, the SLNAs have been made responsible for monitoring the State-level Watershed Programme. Officers, dealing with the implementation of the programmes at

State Headquarters & districts, visit project areas to ensure that the programmes are being implemented satisfactorily. Besides this, Ministry of Rural Development has set up a system of National Level Monitoring to monitor all the schemes under the Ministry of Rural Development. Presently, there are 72 monitors which look after all the schemes of the Ministry throughout the country. NLMs during the regular visit also cover the WDC-PMKSY projects being implemented in the Gram Panchayats(GPs). An evaluation of all Centrally Sponsored Schemes including WDC-PMKSY was undertaken by DMEO, NITI Aayog. The work was assigned to Ms KPMG Advisory Services Pvt. Ltd. They have submitted the evaluation report to the Government. The evaluation was undertaken through review of secondary literature, and primary research comprising interviews with key informants and focus group discussions as well as survey of schemes beneficiaries"

(g) Third Party Evaluation done

3.19 The Committee pointed out that Third Party evaluation has been done by Centre for Rural Studies, (CRS) at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) Mussorie in 2019 in respect of Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, A&N Islands, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and Puducherry whereas BNY Centre for Rural Studies of the same Academy has furnished updated Impact study reports of 13 States of Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, UP, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

3.20 In this connection, during the course of evidence of the representatives of DoLR, a representative of DOLR clarified:

"सर, तीसरा मिड टर्म इवोल्यूशन है, हम लोग इंडिपेंडेंट एजेंसी भी हायर करते हैं। हमारा सेंटर फॉर रूरल स्टडीज़ है, आईएस अकादमी, एलबीएसएनए, मसूरी में है, वहां पर उनको पैसा देकर हम एक साल में कम से कम 5-6 स्टडीज़ जरूर करवाते हैं। इस साल हमने उनसे 17 स्टडीज़ करवायी हैं। इसमें मेन-मेन मुद्दे होते हैं, लैंड डिस्प्यूट्स पर क्या फर्क पड़ा, महिलाओं के जो अधिकार हैं या महिलाओं की जमीन में जो ऑनरशिप है, उसमें कैसे बदलाव आया? यह इंप्लीमेंटेशन हो रहा है। इस बार डीआईएलआरएमपी की हम लोगों ने अलग-अलग स्टेट्स में 13 स्टडीज़ करवायीं कि इसका क्या प्रभाव रहा, किस स्टेट में कितना प्रभाव हुआ, तो हम लोग उनके माध्यम से रिपोर्ट लेते हैं, तो उनसे भी हमें इसके बारे में पता चलता रहता है। यदि कहीं पर कोई सीरियस इश्यू आता है, जैसा कि माननीय सदस्यों ने जम्मू-कश्मीर के बारे में बताया, यूपी के बारे में बताया, तीन स्टेट्स के बारे में चर्चा हुई थी, उसमें मैं और डायरेक्टर खुद गए थे और 3 डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स में हम लोगों ने गाँवों में जाकर वाटरशेड प्रोग्राम देखे थे। मुझे आश्चर्य हुआ, मैं रिकार्डिंग करके लाया हूँ, वह दूरदर्शन और अन्य सभी न्यूज चैनल्स पर था। लोगों ने कहा कि यह बहुत अच्छा प्रोग्राम है, लेकिन पैसा कम आया है, मतलब आपने चार ही चेक डैम बनाए हैं। रामनगर, ऊधमपुर में एक तहसील है, वहां पेरोय जागीर करके एक गांव है। वहाँ के लोगों ने बताया कि हमने कभी भी यहां दो फसलें नहीं देखीं। वह छोटा गांव था, पूरे गांव की 5-6 सौ बीघा जमीन थी। वहां एक चेक डैम बनाया। उसमें 12-13 फीट पानी था, वहां एक पाउंड टाइप डैम बनाया। अभी वे लोग वहां सब्जी लगा रहे हैं। सरपंचों ने लिखकर दिया कि दो पंचायत में तो

आपने कर दिया, हमारी पंचायत को छोड़ दिया। उपयोगिता के बारे में कोई क्वेश्चन मार्क नहीं है। मैं यह एडमिट करता हूँ कि वाटरशेड में पैसे का थिनली स्प्रेड था। 12 हजार रुपये प्रति हेक्टेअर बहुत कम पैसा है। उसमें खेती में हम कितना बदलाव कर सकते हैं? आपको बंजर जमीन लेनी है, जो बेकार जमीन है, इसमें डेवलपड जमीन नहीं लेनी है। हम लोगों का कंटीन्युअस इंटरैक्शन है। जब आपका आदेश होता है, तो मैं और सीनियर आफिसर्स जाते हैं।"

(f) Challenges in WDC-PMKSY

3.21 During the course of examination, the Committee pointed out that Department of Land Resources (DOLR) after receiving positive impact of on-going watershed projects has moved a proposal to take up new generation of watershed projects with the target to cover 20 million hectare from 2021-22 to 2026-27 and DOLR is to roll out these projects at the earliest. Since the existing cost norms for Watershed Development Work are insufficient and funds are to be arranged through convergence. Further for this, livelihood activities of watershed programmes are to be converged with (NRLM) of Department of Rural Development wherever feasible. Asked about work done towards mopping up resources through convergence, in association with Department of Rural Development and other Ministries and roadmap if any drawn up to travel upto 2026-27, the DoLR elaborated:

"As it may be noted that the funds allocated per project as per the guidelines is only Rs. 12000/ ha. and Rs. 15000/ha. Therefore, convergence remains only source of funds for completion of these projects. Department of Land Resources has been emphasizing convergence of WDC-PMKSY scheme with the States through letters to Chairmen SLNA / Secretaries of States, Regional Review Meetings with Senior Officers of States, Video Conferences with CEOs, State Level Nodal Agency (SLNA). In these meetings, States are requested to maximize the convergence with other relevant schemes for qualitative & timely completion of the projects and to realize the optimum benefits of the available resources in the project areas. The States have been advised to complete their transferred projects with the help of convergence from relevant central and state schemes.

It is pertinent to mention here that, as per the available information in the Department, about 26.32% of the expenditure in the watershed project areas has been mobilized through convergence with the other relevant schemes. The continuous efforts are being also made to promote States to focus on the convergence which, apart from reducing the financial burden of the Governments, will generate synergy among the similar schemes.

The Department has proposed launch of new generation watershed projects with a target to cover 20 million ha by 2023-24 and to be implemented upto 2026-27, wherein emphasis is being laid on the effective convergence of the activities in project areas through the relevant Central and State Government schemes. Suitable provisions for effective and scientific planning and execution

of the activities in watershed projects have been contemplated in the new proposed guidelines. The cost norms for the proposed new generation watershed projects is Rs. 22,000 / ha for plain areas and Rs. 28,000 / ha for hilly and difficult areas. However, the proposed enhancement in the cost norm is not sufficient for the development of watershed projects on saturation basis. Keeping this in mind, the DoLR has been emphasizing with States to maximize convergence of possible activities under various schemes of Central and State Governments and try abridging the financial gap. Accordingly, States /UTs shall be asked to map suitable activities in the watershed project areas, based on the District Plan and prepare DPRs on saturation basis. The fund requirement over and above the proposed cost norms is to be clearly indicated in the DPRs and needs to be mopped up through convergence. The Department of Land Resources has taken initiative to ensure convergence with MGNREGS specifically as the latter provides a good support in terms of labour component. The Department is making all out efforts to realise the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee."

II. Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP)

(a) Background

3.22 The National Land Record Modernization Programme (NLRMP) was approved by the Cabinet on 21.08.2008 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and later revamped under the Digital India initiative and renamed as Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) and is being implemented as a Central Sector Scheme with effect from 1st April, 2016 with 100% funding from the Centre. The objective of DILRMP is to develop a modern, comprehensive and transparent land record management system with the aim to develop an Integrated Land Information Management System (ILIMS) in order to provide all land related information at single window, security of tenancy to citizen, reduce land disputes, simplify procedure of transfer of property title etc. The programme has been extended upto 2020-21 at a total cost of Rs.950 crore and is proposed for further extension till 2023-24.

(b) Budget allocation vis- a- vis expenditure

3.23 The BE, RE and actuals during 2018-19 and 2019-20 and 2020-21 and BE (2021-22) are as shown below:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actuals
2018-19	250.00	145.00	68.09
2019-20	150.00	50.00	43.77
2020-21	638.65	383.00	8.84 (Upto 05.01.21)
2021-22	150.00		

3.24 Asked about the reasons for steep lowering of BE at RE stage and under utilisation during 2018-19 and 2019-20 and that available funds have not been utilised in any of the above years; the DoLR clarified:

"DILRMP has been converted from Centrally Sponsored Scheme to Central Sector Scheme with hundred per cent funding by the Centre from 1.4.2016. Further, to accelerate the pace of implementation, the funding pattern was restored from Reimbursement Basis to Advance Basis w.e.f 3.1.2020. Number of innovative initiatives have been taken to enhance the effectiveness of the service deliveries in land governance. These initiatives *inter alia* include: - National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS, an advance version of software application for registration process), Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN), Integrated Land Information Management System (ILIMS)."

3.25 Asked about the factors which which necessitated its further extension beyond 2020-21 till 2023-24, the DoLR clarified;

"Although substantial progress has been achieved in the basic requirements of DILRMP, States / UTs are yet to ensure 100% completion of all components of DILRMP. Further, this Department has taken new initiatives under the programme like NGDRS, ULPIN, linking of court to land records, integration consent based aadhaar number with land records etc. which necessitated its further extension beyond 2020-21 till 2023-24."

3.26 The Committee enquired whether all was not well with the implementation of the Programme in all these years, the DoLR explained;

" Substantial progress has been achieved in the basic requirements of DILRMP has been achieved which was acknowledged by PMO."

(b) State-wise releases

3.27 During the course of examination the Committee pointed out the following State-wise release of funds during the last three years and current year (up to 5.1.2021) under DILRMP:-

(Rs in lakhs)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Funds released (Year-wise)			
		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
1	Andhra Pradesh	1950.00	0.00	0.00	6207.65
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	23.52
3	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	1005.00
4	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	1106.85
6	Gujarat	1000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	23.52
8	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Himachal Pradesh	10.00	0.00	657.00	606.56
10	Jammu & Kashmir	477.00	30.00	0.00	1206.08
11	Jharkhand	250.00	1140.00	0.00	2525.51
12	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	Kerala	0.00	490.81	0.00	0.00
14	Madhya Pradesh	1754.00	0.00	0.00	3089.77
15	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00	34.20
16	Manipur	0.00	0.00	500.00	77.81
17	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	32.74	249.00
19	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20	Odisha	0.00	0.00	0.00	2500.00
21	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22	Rajasthan	2645.00	1500.00	323.22	252.75
23	Sikkim	314.88	93.21	0.00	0.00
24	Tamil Nadu	10.00	1035.00	153.34	162.50
25	Telangana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26	Tripura	685.12	0.00	0.00	0.00
27	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	2325.00	0.00	53.52
28	Uttarakhand	7.29	0.00	2162.02	0.00
29	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	337.50
30	A & N Islands	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.60
32	D & N Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34	Daman & Diu	0.00		0.00	0.00
35	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
36	Puducherry	154.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
37	Ladakh	-	-	-	-
38	Misc*	417.55	195.63	549.00	216.01
Total All States/UTs		9774.85	6809.65	4377.32	19697.35

*includes releases made to NIC and CRS, LBSNAA

3.28 During the course of examination, the Committee pointed out that there are only few States of Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu to some extent Jharkhand which could not get regular releases of funds from 2017-18 to 2020-21. Further, States of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh could get funds during 2017-18 and 2020-21. The Committee also pointed out that there are States like Uttar Pradesh which could get funds only in single year. Further States like Bihar, Haryana etc. which could not get any funds. The Committee also pointed out that during 2020-21 funds started trickling to States in big way. Asked about the reasons for above irregular releases of funds during all these years largely restricted to a few States during 2017-18 onwards and how DoLR is going to pull on with their slow pace of releases across States/UTs, DoLR elaborated:

"The programme is demand driven and funds are released to the States / UTs based on proposals received, sanctions, progress made and unspent balances available with them. During 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 (upto 3.1.2020), fund release was permitted on reimbursement basis due to which most of the States/UTs were unable to spend funds from their own exchequer; on account of which less releases were made during the said period. However, the department made endeavors for restoration of funding pattern from reimbursement basis to advance basis which was approved by M/o Finance w.e.f 3.1.2020 alongwith restoration of some components. Subsequently, substantial releases have been made during 2019-20 (3.1.2020 to 31.3.2020) and during 2020-21 till date.

The pace of the programme depends upon the speed of implementation by the States/UTs. Its implementation is a complex, sensitive and voluminous work, involving cumbersome and time-consuming processes. Gestation period of completion of the various activities/components of this Programme is relatively longer as compared to other schemes. In some of the north-eastern states like Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, and Nagaland, the progress is relatively slow due to the fact that land is owned/controlled by the communities and land records of most of the villages are not available with the government. Department is making all possible efforts for speedy implementation of the Programme in those States by holding regional review meetings – in Tripura on 6.9.2018, Manipur on 5-6 August, 2019 and Meghalaya on 28.2.2020 to resolve the issue of computerization of land records in the areas where land is owned by communities. Responses are encouraging and some of the north-eastern states have started reporting progress under computerization of land records. The progress of implementation is also monitored regularly by the Department through Regional Review Meetings, Video Conferences, Central Management Information System (MIS), Project Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (PS & MC) and visits of senior officers in the field."

(c) Unspent DILRMP funds

3.29 During the course of examination, the Committee pointed out that DILRMP funds of Rs.49,282.21 lakh is lying unspent as on 05.01.2021, with the following State-wise details of total unspent balance under DILRMP (up to 5.1.2021).

(Rs in lakhs)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total released	Total UC Reported	Total Unspent Balance
1	Andhra Pradesh	15663.09	9416.12	6246.97
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1230.94	572.57	658.37
3	Assam	4665.55	3635.73	1029.83
4	Bihar	7771.42	5728.59	2042.83
5	Chhattisgarh	4452.42	3290.29	1162.13
6	Gujarat	14309.75	14070.01	239.74
7	Goa	422.07	69.00	353.07
8	Haryana	4144.65	2392.00	1752.65
9	Himachal Pradesh	5608.01	2322.00	3286.01
10	Jammu & Kashmir	2701.64	1455.56	1246.08
11	Jharkhand	7423.05	4867.54	2555.51
12	Karnataka	2451.20	22.56	2428.64
13	Kerala	3298.05	2710.00	588.05
14	Madhya Pradesh	17730.00	14640.23	3089.77
15	Maharashtra	6570.36	3536.16	3034.20
16	Manipur	746.34	668.53	77.81
17	Meghalaya	623.75	78.00	545.75
18	Mizoram	2119.37	1837.63	281.74
19	Nagaland	1547.62	1547.00	0.62
20	Odisha	12128.04	9553.20	2574.84
21	Punjab	2796.26	2599.00	197.26
22	Rajasthan	14995.52	14412.77	582.75
23	Sikkim	1427.02	1098.79	328.23
24	Tamil Nadu	4562.57	4394.03	168.54
25	Telangana	8385.21	265.85	8119.36
26	Tripura	2983.59	2105.56	878.03
27	Uttar Pradesh	4231.01	1436.49	2794.52
28	Uttarakhand	2941.48	790.28	2151.20
29	West Bengal	9526.32	9151.14	375.18
30	A & N Islands	172.25	51.00	121.25
31	Chandigarh	89.20	40.73	48.47
32	D & N Haveli	65.78	7.81	57.97
33	Delhi	132.07	5.00	127.07
34	Daman & Diu	103.72	94.00	9.72
35	Lakshadweep	216.41	158.00	58.41
36	Puducherry	498.57	274.48	224.09
37	Ladakh	-	-	-
38	NIC (for NGDRS)	201.39	201.39	0.00
Total All States/UTs (excluding miscellaneous)		168935.69	119653.58	49282.11

3.30 Asked about the reasons that in all the States/UTs DILRMP funds are lying unspent, the DoLR explained:

"The implementation of the programme is a complex, sensitive and voluminous work, involving cumbersome and time-consuming processes. Gestation period of completion of the various activities/components of this Programme is relatively longer as compared to other schemes. Department has taken all effective steps to reduce the unspent balances available with the states/UTs that includes regional review meetings and regular visits of the senior officers to the fields."

3.31 The Committee further enquired about the reasons that huge amount of unspent DILRMP funds are shown against progressive States like Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand etc., the DoLR informed:

"Unspent balance available with most of the above States include mostly fund released during 2020-21 for which Utilization Certificates are not yet due (supposed to be spent by 31.3.2021)."

3.32 The Committee also wanted to know whether there is no monitoring on the part of Department of Land Resources (DOLR) on the issue at all on this prominent scheme that deals with making available land records to the common man, the DoLR explained:

"States / UTs through Central and Regional Review Meetings, PS&MC meetings, Video Conferences, formal communications, emails etc. are urged to speedily utilize the unspent balance available with them and provide corresponding Utilization Certificates so that their demands for additional funds can be considered by the Department. The progress is also monitored through the Central MIS portal of DILRMP developed by NIC and hosted on the website wherein financial progress under the programme can be tracked. The progress of implementation is also monitored regularly by the Department through visits of senior officers to the states/UTs."

3.33 During the course of examination, the Committee pointed out the DOLR has mentioned that majority of the unutilised funds reported by States relate to survey/re-survey which is a technology intensive activity and requires significant number of skilled human resources. Asked whether the affected States/UTs have sufficient wherewithal and technical skilled manpower to work on and State-wise position in this regard, DoLR explained:

"The details of technical skilled manpower are available with the States/UTs and are not centrally maintained. This Department through DILRMP provides financial assistance to States/UTs for training / skill upgradation of manpower available with the States / UTs based on the specific proposals"

received from the States/UTs. The Department of Expenditure has approved restoration of funding pattern from re-imburement basis to advanced basis w.e.f 03.01.2020."

3.34 The Committee also wanted to what extent the same has eased out the problem of unspent balances across the States, the DoLR clarified:

"The pace of fund release, utilization reported by the States / UTs and submission of UCs has substantially improved after restoration of funding pattern from re-imburement basis to advance basis. This can be corroborated that so far total 201 crore is released against total 238.65 crore and an amount of Rs 22.27 crore has been spent during the FY 2020-21. Further, proposal of more than Rs 100 crore are either concurred or under process in the department, however, fund could not be released due to non-availability of fund under the corresponding head."

(d) Physical Performance

3.35 DILRMP has following components:

- (1) Computerisation of Land Records
- (2) Computerisation of Registration Records (CRR)
- (3) Survey of Reserving
- (4) Modern Record Room
- (5) Training and Capacity Building
- (6) Project Management Units

State wise and component wise, physical progress under DILRMP

(as on 5-1-2021)

S.N.	Component	Completed (Equal to or above 90%)	Ongoing (Above 0% & below 90%)	Not Started (Equal to 0%)
1	Computerization of Land Records (CLR)	24 States/UTs :	11 States/UTs :	2 States/UTs :
2	Digitization of Cadastral Maps	22 States/UTs :	10 States/UTs :	5 States/UTs :
3	Integration of Cadastral Maps with RoRs	6 States/UTs :	19 States/UTs :	12 States/UTs :
4	Computerization of Property Registration (CPR)	27 States/UTs :	6 States/UTs :	4 States/UTs :
5	Integration of Land Records and Property Registration	20 States/UTs :	8 States/UTs :	9 States/UTs :

3.36 (State specific data is shown as Apendix-I)

3.37 Asked about the reasons that only that only few States of Goa, Jharkhand, Delhi, Odisha, Tripura, Sikkim, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, West Bengal and Puducherry could complete 90% work in all the components of DILRMP and that other prominent and big States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh etc. are lagging behind. The Committee also wanted to know whether Department of Land Resources should accelerate the DILRMP in remaining States which are slow moving and steps underway in this regard, DoLR explained:

"The implementation of the programme is a complex, sensitive and voluminous work, involving cumbersome and time-consuming processes. Gestation period of completion of the various activities/components of this Programme is relatively longer as compared to other schemes. Majority of States are smaller in size which inherently is advantageous for early completion of activities under DILRMP. Although substantial progress has been achieved under the programme, the progress is relatively slow in the some of the north-

eastern states like Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Manipur, due to the fact that land is owned/controlled by the communities and land records of most of the villages are not available with the government. Department is making all possible efforts for speedy implementation of the Programme in these States by holding regional review meetings – in Tripura on 6.9.2018, Manipur on 5-6 August, 2019 and Meghalaya on 28.2.2020 to resolve the issue of computerization of land records in the areas where land is owned by communities. Responses are encouraging and some of the north-eastern states have started reporting progress under computerization of land records. The progress of implementation is also monitored regularly by the Department through Regional Review Meetings, Video Conferences, Central Management Information System (MIS) and visits of senior officers."

3.38 During the course of evidence of representatives of DoLR, various issues like need for making available 7/12 records of land through computers as currently the applicant has to roam around local patwaris and revenue official, updating the names of land owners in land record as various land record still are in the name of old land owners even after their death , as social security measure need for retaining name of father as second owner in old age in case where the father gives his land to his heirs, need for clear demarcation of ways, roads etc. on lands, need for taking necessary action on observations made by Disha Meetings held under the Chairmanship of local MPs, need for uninterrupted 5 Mbps internet connectivity etc.; answering the Committee the Secretary DoLR submitted:

"महोदय, कई महत्वपूर्ण विषय आपके माध्यम से रखे गए हैं। आपने एक बात बट्टा-नम्बर के निर्धारण करना और उसे नक्शे में उतारने की कही है। मैं मध्य प्रदेश कौर्डर का हूँ। कई राज्यों में इसका निर्धारण है। जब भी कभी उत्तराधिकारी का नामांकन होता है, तो बट्टा नम्बर देते हैं और जो विक्रय होता है, उसके आधार पर भी हम बट्टा नम्बर देते हैं और म्यूटेशन के लिए तीन महीने का समय देते हैं। मेरा कहना है कि कई राज्यों में ऐसी व्यवस्था है, लेकिन ये सारे मुद्दे हम राज्यों से अपेक्षा करते हैं कि वे अपने स्तर पर करें। जैसा आपने कहा कि किस तरह के कार्य हम डब्ल्यूडीसीपीएमवाई में ले सकते हैं। इसमें बहुत तरह के कार्य सम्मिलित हैं, जिन्हें किया जाता है। राज्यों के साथ कैसा कंवर्जन होना चाहिए, यह बहुत आवश्यक है क्योंकि हमारे पास मनरेगा के माध्यम से बहुत बड़ी राशि मिलती है। हमारा आकलन है कि 25 प्रतिशत तक की फंडिंग कंवर्जन्स समन्वय के माध्यम से हम कर रहे हैं।

महोदय, आपने एक महत्वपूर्ण बात पुराने रास्तों के बारे में कही है कि वे दर्शाए नहीं जा रहे हैं और धीरे-धीरे कहीं यह स्थिति न आए कि वे विलुप्त हो जाएं।

महोदय, जब भी समीक्षा होगी, तो हमारे स्टेट के जो प्रमुख सचिव हैं, उनके बीच यह बात रखूंगा और यह प्रयास करूंगा कि किस तरह से इस महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दे का समाधान किया जा सके और यदि हमसे कोई अपेक्षा हो, तो हम उन्हें निर्देश दे पाएं। सर, एक इंटिग्रेशन ऑफ लैंड रिकार्ड्स विद बैंक्स बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विषय है। एडिशनल सैक्रेटरी इस संबंध में और स्पष्टीकरण देंगे, जिसे लेकर आपने 7/12 में अपग्रेडेशन की बात कही है। एक मेंटेनेंस फंड की बात आपने रखी है। मैं संयुक्त सचिव से अनुरोध करूंगा कि वे भी इसे आपके समक्ष स्पष्ट करें।"

3.39 On the issue of digitalization of family wise land records, a representative of

DoLR replied:

"सर, माननीय सदस्य, पंजाब ने बहुत ही अच्छा प्रश्न उठाया है। हमारी नोटिस में यह है। यह चार स्टेट्स का प्रॉब्लम है। यह दिल्ली का भी प्रॉब्लम है। पंजाब, हिमाचल प्रदेश, हरियाणा और दिल्ली की यह मेजर प्रॉब्लम है। चकबंदी अधिनियम का नियम है कि एक पार्टिकुलर सीमा के बाद भूमि का विभाजन नहीं होगा। जैसे कि 2 एकड़ सीमा निर्धारित की गई है, लेकिन अब चूंकि परिवार बंट गए हैं तो जमीन 2 एकड़ से कम हो जाती है। जमीन जब भी 2 एकड़ से कम होगी तो उनकी संतानों या वंशज के नाम पर जमीन अलग-अलग नहीं हो सकती। इसके अंतर्गत यह नियम है। हम लोगों ने इस विषय पर बहुत समय पहले हरियाणा सरकार से बात की थी। जहां की मैं बात कर रहा हूं, वहां इसके कारण काफी डिस्प्यूट्स भी थे। हमने 300 पंचायतों का पूरा सर्वे करवाया था। हमने यह कहा था कि जमीन की सीमा तब प्रासंगिक थी, जब लोगों के पास ज्यादा बड़ी जमीनें हुआ करती थीं, ताकि वह बेंच न पाएं या जमीनें छोटी-छोटी न हो जाएं। अब तो सबके पास एवरेज लैंड होल्डिंग एक एकड़ हो गई है।

सर, आपका निदेश हुआ है। हम लोग एक एडवाइजरी जारी करेंगे। वैसे भी यह सब स्टेट्स को ही करना है। उनके एक्ट में केंद्र सरकार संशोधन नहीं कर सकती है, लेकिन हम उनको लिखेंगे और यह कोशिश करेंगे कि वे उस पर पुनर्विचार करें। कुछ स्टेट्स कर भी रहे हैं। पंजाब के विचाराधीन इससे संबंधित कुछ हुआ है, जो मुझे पता चला है। दिल्ली में भी दो एकड़ ही है। वहां भी अलग-अलग नहीं होता है।"

3.40 The witness further elaborated :

"जैसे पंजाब की बात आई, ऑनरेबल मेंबर की बात आई, तो इन दोनों चीजों को जाकर हम पुनः देखेंगे कि हम क्या कर सकते हैं, क्योंकि हम सब लोग समाधान के लिए बैठे हैं। पंजाब में जाकर हम रेवेन्यू सेक्रेटरी, चीफ सेक्रेटरी से बात करेंगे कि ऐसा माननीय सदस्य ने बताया है, इसका क्या समाधान हो सकता है। आप भी जानते हैं कि हम लोग तो फंड टेक्निकल और एडमिनस्ट्रिटिव सैक्शन दे सकते हैं, लेकिन जो लीगल कार्यवाही है, जो एक्ट में बदलाव लाना है, वह राज्यों को लाना है। यह अपने लेवल पर यहां नहीं हो सकता है। फिर भी हम लोग यह जिम्मेदारी लेते हैं कि राज्यों से जाकर, जो आपने परेशानी बताई है, उस पर जाकर डिसकस करेंगे। उसका जो भी समाधान निकलेगा, अगली मीटिंग में वह आपके संज्ञान में लायेंगे।"

3.41 In post evidence reply, the DoLR stated :

"The Department provides funds for computerization/digitization of land records of all land owners, which may be accessed online and downloaded at any level - individual, family or village level."

3.42 On the issue of updation of 7/12 records, the witness stated:

"माननीय सदस्य का कहना था कि जो बंटा होता है, वह अपडेट नहीं होता है। इसका कारण यह है कि अभी तक वर्ष 1986 से या वर्ष 2008-09 से ज्यादा जोर अधिकार अभिलेख पर रहा है। हर एक आदमी अपनी खतौनी, केवट या आपके एरिया में इसे जिस नाम से भी कहा जाता हो, उस पर जोर देता है। वह कभी भी यह नहीं सोचता कि उसके नक्शे में जो हिस्सा है, वह अलग हुआ है या नहीं हुआ है। दोनों में फर्क आता है। मैंने इसीलिए अभी प्रेजेंटेशन में बताया है कि विभाग का जोर इस पर रहा है। कम्प्यूटराइजेशन तो हमने लगभग 80-90 परसेंट कर लिया है। मैप और अधिकार अभिलेख यदि दोनों जुड़ जाएं, तो जैसे ही खतौनी या सातबारा अपडेट होगा, मान लीजिए कि पिता

के मरने के बाद बच्चों के नाम होना हो तो वह ऑटोमेटिकली नक्शे में भी अपडेट हो जाएगा। हम लोगों ने इनको 16 जिलों में जोड़ भी दिया है। गुजरात, राजस्थान ने इसे काफी वृहद लेवल पर स्टार्ट कर दिया है। आंध्र प्रदेश में भी हो चुका है। यदि यह हो जाएगा, तो काफी सुविधा हो जाएगी। माननीय सदस्य का प्रश्न बिल्कुल सही है। यदि यह हो जाएगा, तो काफी सुविधा हो जाएगी। माननीय सदस्य का प्रश्न बिल्कुल सही है। मैं बिहार से आता हूं। माननीय सदस्य भी बिहार से हैं। बिहार में यह बहुत मेजर प्रॉब्लम थी, जिसको हमने दूर किया।

3.43 On the need for making available updated 'Saat-Bara' record in the country as the applicant is to run around before Local Patwaris for this, the DoLR in post evidence reply stated:

"The Department has taken up the matter with States concerned i.e.Gujarat and Maharashtra for making available updated 'Saat-Bara' records (copy of letter dated 22.2.2021 is enclosed as Appendix-II)."

3.44 On the need for training Patwaris and Lekhpals so that they can give 'Saat-Bara' record to the applicants, the DoLR in post evidence reply informed:

"The Department considers proposals from States/UTs and provides funds for imparting training to Patwaris and Lekhpals in land record keeping, their updation and management."

3.45 On the need for re-training the trainers as it is seen that trainers are not able to upload the land records, the DoLR in post evidence reply informed:

"The Department assesses the training needs and considers proposals from States /UTs and provides funds for capacity building of Revenue officials in uploading of the land records "

3.46 On the need for updating names of farmers in record as figuring of old names is creating property disputes, the DoLR in post evidence reply stated:

" The updating of names in land records is a continuous and dynamic process. The Revenue officials update the names of legal heirs in the land records only upon receipt of such request made by the kin of deceased member of the family instead of suo motu updation/mutation."

3.47 On the issue of clear demarcation of different ways like pedestrian, road ways connectivity in rural areas after sitting with local Patwaris and revenue officials, the DoLR in post evidence reply stated:

" The Department has issued advisory to all States/UTs records for demarcation of different ways like pedestrian, road ways connectivity in

rural areas (copy of advisory dated 22.2.2021 is enclosed as Appendix - III)."

3.48 On the issue of early completion of the Survey number known as गाटा number in Maharashtra, the witness explained:

"सर, हमने सभी राज्यों के लिए वर्ष 2022-23 तक यह लक्ष्य रखा है कि इसको इस अवधि तक कम्प्लीट कर लेना है। जैसे ही पटवारा हो, तो केवट में जब दुरुस्ती होती है या दाखिल-खारिज होता है, तो उसके साथ-साथ ही नक्शे में भी वह दुरुस्त हो जाए। सर, अभी सर वह मैनुअल है। वहां पर डिजिटाइजेशन नहीं हुआ है। आपके यहां नक्शा दुरुस्ती कहा जाता है। नक्शा दुरुस्ती में पटवारी मैनुअली करता है। मैंने जैसा कि अभी बताया कि पटवारी अपना अधिकार जल्दी छोड़ना नहीं चाहता है, तो वह समस्या आती है, लेकिन जब ये दोनों लिंक हो जाएंगे तो कोई समस्या नहीं रहेगी।"

3.49 At this the Committee pointed out it is not pending on the part of Patwaris but with local revenue offices, the witness submitted:

"सर, एक बार जब नक्शा बन जाता है, तो राजस्व विभाग को दाखिल-खारिज अपडेट करना पड़ता है, लेकिन राजस्व विभाग नक्शा नहीं करता है, वह सातबारा करता है। अभी इसे कम्प्लेक्सरी कर दिया गया है। राजस्थान में दोनों स्टार्ट कर दिए गए हैं। जैसे ही कोई नक्शा देगा, तो 10 दिनों के भीतर उसका नक्शा दुरुस्त होकर आ जाएगा। मैं अपना नक्शा देखता रहता हूं। आप मोबाइल ऐप के माध्यम से देख सकते हैं। 16 राज्यों ने इसे कर लिया है। दुर्भाग्य से महाराष्ट्र में अभी यह नहीं हो सका है। यूपी में नहीं हुआ है, बिहार, जो मेरा अपना राज्य है, वहां अभी नहीं हुआ है।"

3.50 On the issue of making available crop wise data on computer in the country, the Committee pointed out it is to be done early, the witness informed:

"वह भी किया जा सकता है। कुछ जगह, जैसे राजस्थान आदि में पटवारी को आईपैड दिया गया है। वह वहां पर वहीं से भर देता है तो वह अपनेआप अपडेट हो जाता है। जैसा कि आप कह रहे हैं, वैसा ही मैथड राजस्थान में अपनाया जाता है। पटवारी ग्राउंड में जाकर अपलोड कर देता है और वहीं से वह अपडेट हो जाता है। सर, इसके अलावा बैंक और माननीय सदस्य का प्रश्न था कि डीएलआर किस प्रकार से रोडमैप बनाता है। राज्यों में हमारे कुछ विभाग हैं। एक रजिस्ट्रेशन है, एक राजस्व विभाग है, तीसरा वाटर स्टेट में ग्राउंड विकास और एग्रीकल्चर विभाग है। वाटर स्टेट का जनरली नोडल एजेंसी बना हुआ है। हमारे विभाग का एक पीएमयू है, प्रोजेक्ट मैनेजमेंट यूनिट- जो कि उसकी गवर्निंग काउंसिल है, जिसके हेड चीफ सेक्रेट्री होते हैं। बाकी आठ डिपार्टमेंट्स जैसे आईटी, एग्रीकल्चर आदि इसके मेंबर होते हैं। एक्जीक्यूटिव काउंसिल के हेड एडीशनल चीफ सेक्रेट्री, रेवेन्यू या प्रधान सचिव, रेवेन्यू होते हैं। उनको हर क्वार्टर में एक बैठक करनी होती है और इम्प्लिमेंटेशन में क्या इश्यूज आ रहे हैं, यह देखना होता है। चीफ सेक्रेट्री की अध्यक्षता में गवर्निंग काउंसिल बॉडी वार्षिक ऐक्शन प्लान बनाती है कि इस साल हमको क्या करना है और कहां पहुंचना है। ये सारे प्लान हमारे यहां आते हैं। हमारे यहां प्रोजेक्ट सैंक्शनिंग एंड मॉनिटरिंग कमेटी चीफ सेक्रेट्री साहब की अध्यक्षता में बनी हुई है। करीब 9-10 डिपार्टमेंट्स और टैक्निकल एजेंसीज हमारे पार्टनर्स हैं। वे सब उन प्रोजेक्ट्स को एग्जामिन करते हैं और साल के अंत में ही उनको बता

दिया जाता है कि आपका फाइनेंशियल एलोकेशन यह है और आपको कहां-कहां क्या-क्या करना है। "

3.51 He added:

" सर, अभी हम लोगों ने हर स्टेट के लिए फिजिकल फाइनेंशियल टार्गेट कम्यूनिकेट कर दिए हैं। वह इस आधार पर होते हैं कि कौन सी स्टेट कहां पर है। जैसे कि बिहार के लिए मैं बोलूंगा तो पूरा कम्प्यूटराइज्ड कर लिया जाएगा। गुजरात या राजस्थान के लिए बोलूंगा तो अपनेआप नक्शा दुरुस्तीकरण हो जाएगा। इस तरह के टार्गेट उनको कम्यूनिकेटेड हैं। वह टार्गेट हमारी एजेंसी कलेक्ट करती है। अल्टीमेटली पटवारी, तहसीलदार, कलेक्टर को कम्यूनिकेट हो जाते हैं। उनको पासवर्ड दिए हुए हैं। वह अपनेआप एमआईएस में अपलोड कर देते हैं। जो भी प्रोग्रेस होती है, हम यहां से मॉनीटरिंग करते रहते हैं। उनसे इंटरैक्शन करने का हमारा यह मैकेनिज्म है।"

3.52 On the issue of monitoring action taken anything out of Disha Meetings, the witness explained:

"सर, 'दिशा' के मामले में हमने तीन लेवल की मॉनीटरिंग की थी। जब भी प्रपोजल आता है तो प्रोजेक्ट सैंक्शन एंड मॉनीटरिंग कमेटी हर महीने या दो महीने पर सेक्रेट्री साहब की अध्यक्षता में बैठक करती है। उसमें हम प्रपोजलों की समीक्षा के साथ-साथ मॉनीटरिंग भी करते हैं कि कहां पर कितना स्पेस है और कितना काम हुआ है। दूसरा, ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय के नैशनल लेवल मॉनीटर्स हैं, जिसमें हमारी दोनों स्कीमें जुड़ी हुई हैं। वे लोग हमें रिपोर्ट्स देते हैं। इस साल मुझे तीन-चार रिपोर्टें मिली हैं, जिनमें कई बार सीरियस बातें भी होती हैं। उनको हम संबंधित स्टेट्स को कम्यूनिकेट करते हैं और हम वहां जाकर स्वयं भी देखते हैं। "

3.53 In post evidence reply, the DoLR stated:

" The desired institutional arrangement is already in place. DISHA is chaired by Hon'ble MP and District Collector is its ex-officio Member-Secretary, who is also the implementing officer of DILRMP at district level. The District Collector also exercises administrative and supervisory control over Tehsildar, the implementing officer of DILRMP at Tehsil level."

3.54 On the issue of ensuring un-interrupted 5 Mbps internet connectivity to Panchayat was also highlighted before the Committee as the on-going work was not being done well, the DoLR in their post evidence reply submitted.

"The Department has requested the Ministry concerned i.e. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Meity) for ensuring uninterrupted internet connectivity of 5 MBPS for Panchayats (copy of letter dated 23.2.2021 is enclosed as Appendix -IV)."

(e) Extension of DILRMP

3.55 The Committee pointed out that DILRMP was extended for 4 years from 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2021 at the total cost of 950 crore as shown below:

S. N.	Name of Component	Outlay (in Rs. Crore)
1	State Level Data Centre	40.10
2	Modern Record Room	216.44
3	Data Entry/Re-entry/Data Conversion	20.11
4	Digitalization of Cadastral Maps	256.92
5	Computerization of Registration	303.69
6	Evaluation Studies, IEC and Training	37.74
7	Survey / re-survey	50.00
8	PMU	5.00
9	Core GIS	20.00
	Total	950.00

Release of funds on Advance basis w.e.f. 3.1.2020

The ambit is now proposed to be further expanded to (i) Computerisation of Revenue Court Management System (ii) Integration of Aadhaar number with the land record database on voluntary basis and (iii) Linkage of land record database with banks (iv) Modern Record Room at district level.

3.56 Asked how much work has been done so far as deadline is to end on 31st March this year, the DoLR explained:

"Substantial progress has been made under the Programme in the basic requirements of inter alia Computerization of Land Records i.e. Record of Rights (RoR) completed more than 90% in 24 States/UTs (5,98,290 villages out of total 6,58,160 in the country); Cadastral Maps digitized more than 90% in 22 States/UTs (1,09,10,525 maps out of total 1,60,69,413 maps); Computerization of Registration completed more than 90% in 27 States/UTs (4,784 Sub-Registrar Offices out of total 5,211 SROs) and Integration of SROs with Land Records completed more than 90% in 19 States/UTs (3,844 SROs out of total 5,211 SROs)."

(g) Improvements in DILRMP

3.57 The following new steps are initiative by DOLR on DILRMP:

- (i) Addition of new components of:
 - (a) Linking Aadhar with land records through Unique Land Parcel Identification (ULPIN) number @ Rs.3 per record
 - (b) Aadhar seeding plus authentication @ Rs.5
 - (c) District Level Modern Record Room @ Rs.50 lakh per district
 - (d) Integration of land record with Revenue Court Management System (RCMS) at a total cost of Rs.270 crore.
- (ii) National Generic Development Registration System (NGDRS) 'One Nation One Software' currently being implemented in 10 States
- (iii) Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) proposed to be rolled out in 10 States during FY 2020-21 and by 2021-22 in the entire country.

3.58 The committee enquired whether DoLR will be able to do these additional works particularly the work in land is still quite huge with many States are not even responding to comply old components of DILRMP, the DoLR explained:

"The newly proposed components of e-RCMS and ULPIN have been recommended by the Sectoral Group of Secretaries. The Department envisages to complete the ongoing as well as newly proposed components in the next three years i.e. by 2023-24. These components will enhance the service deliveries to the citizen of the country and will also function as inputs to the schemes of the other sectors like Agriculture, Finance Disaster Management etc."

3.59 In this context the DoLR has also submitted:

"The proposed expenditure and fund requirements under different components of DILRMP are very less vis a vis other schemes/programmes of the Central/State governments, however, the returns/dividends are very high and affecting majority of the population. This programme is a game changer in reducing the corruption in the land revenue administration of the states and empowering common citizen through on line access of the land related information. It has been reported by all the states that after implementation of this programme land disputes have been substantially reduced and it enables to unlock the land capital through better governance in the revenue".

PART II

Observations / Recommendations

Demands for Grants (2021-22) of the Department of Land Resources (DOLR)(Ministry of Rural Development) was tabled in the Lok Sabha on 9 February, 2021 wherein Rs.2170.42 cr. have been allocated to the DOLR by the Government. The Standing Committee on Rural Development (2020-21) examined the same. The observations/recommendations arising out of the analysis of Demands for Grants (2021-22) are enumerated in the successive paragraphs.

Expeditious liquidation of Unspent Balances

The Committee note that Demands for Grants (2021-2022) of Department of Land Resources (DoLR) reveal that a provision of Rs.2170.42 cr. has been made broadly for two prominent schemes viz. (i) Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sichayee Yojana 'WDC-PMKSY' (Rs.2000 cr.) for development of rainfed and degraded areas in the country, and (ii) Digital India Land Record Modernisation Programme 'DILRMP' amounting to Rs. 150 cr. to develop a modern, comprehensive and transparent land record management system in the country.

During the Committee's examination of overall outlays vis-a-vis utilisation of DoLR funds during the last three years from 2018-19 onwards it came to the fore that these schemes are not only been experiencing downsizing of funds from BE to RE but also been witnessing surrender of funds during first two years i.e. 2018-19 and 2019-20 to the tune of Rs. 637.80 cr. and Rs. 692.84 cr. respectively. The Committee are further

dismayed to note that during 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 as against the BE of Rs. 2511.40 cr., Rs. 2227.27 cr. and Rs. 2251.24 cr., RE figures were as low as Rs.1996.10 cr., Rs. 1900.00 cr. and Rs. 1252.15 cr. respectively. In this regard, various reasons like non-receipt of proposals from State/UT Governments, delay in holding of State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSCs) Meetings besides issue of non-availability of land in some North Eastern States have been cited for lowering of funds under WDC-PMKSY etc. as cited by the Department. Further, in the case of DILRMP 'Reimbursement Basis' releases of funds to States/UTs instead of 'Advance Basis' has been the prominent reason for low utilization of funds. As a result, number of States/UTs were unable to use funds from their own exchequer and so there is huge accumulation of unspent balance of Rs.49282.11 lakhs as on 05.01.2021.

In view of the above, the DoLR had apprised the Committee that a number of steps have been taken such as sending periodic communications to Chief Secretaries (CSs) of the concerned States Governments, holding of Regional Review Meetings (RRMs), constituting Zonal Level Committee (ZLCs) etc. for accelerating the work of WDC-PMKSY thereby increasing the utilization of funds. Also, DoLR has taken steps to restore the funding pattern on 'Advance Basis' w.e.f. 3rd March, 2020 for easing the utilization of funds. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the DOLR should make all out efforts for full utilisation of available funds under WDC-PMKSY and DILRMP schemes for expeditious liquidation of unspent balances so that purpose of the schemes may be achieved as envisaged by the Government.

(Recommendation Sl.No. 1)

Higher funds recommended for Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP)

The Committee have also been informed by DoLR that compared to benefits of DILRMP in reducing land disputes in the country the funds given for implementation are quite low. The Committee are of the view that scheme of such paramount importance should not suffer due to lack of funds. The Committee, therefore, taking into account the importance of the scheme to resolve the land disputes in a transparent and digital way, feel that Government must allocate or re-appropriate adequate funds for DILRMP to achieve the purpose of the scheme in a realistic and timely-manner.

(Recommendation Sl.No. 2)

Expeditious completion of on-going Projects

The Committee's examination of physical progress of WDC-PMKSY projects reveal that out of 8214 sanctioned projects, 345 uninitiated projects and 1487 projects in Preparatory Phase (Total 1832) were transferred to States in 2018 to be taken up under their respective States' budget. Out of remaining 6382 WDC-PMKSY projects being funded by DoLR, 4743 projects have been reported complete by the States/UTs, 409 projects are in consolidation phase and 1230 projects are in work phase of implementation, as on 31.01.2021. In this connection, the Committee observed that projects that were started way back in 2014-15 are to be completed by 2021-22 and DOLR is hopeful of timely completion of all on-going projects. The

Committee, however, are disappointed to learn that the progress of implementation of WDC-PMKSY projects in States of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Punjab and Sikkim have been very low due to lack of focus on the part of concerned State Governments and delay in release of Central funds to State Level Nodal Agencies (SLNAs). The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that SLNAs of all these States should focus on efficacious implementation of WDC-PMKSY and the delay in the release of Central Funds should be avoided so that purpose of sanctioned projects are not defeated and thereby adequate irrigation facilities could be provided to Rainfed areas and degraded areas of the country.

(Recommendation Sl. No.3)

Impact of WDC-PMKSY programme on the areas of water harvesting

During the examination of DFG (2021-22), the Committee are appreciative of the fact that WDC-PMKSY has brought about significant change at ground level with construction of 6.01 lakh water harvesting structures and bringing additional area of 13.30 lakh hectares under protective irrigation, benefitting 28.04 lakh farmers. 14.85 lakh WDC-PMKSY works HAVE ALSO BEEN geo tagged. During the course of evidence, the representatives of DOLR apprised the Committee that low water table facing areas are being replenished by promoting afforestation of fruit bearing trees like Amla with low water intake and water bodies damaged by excessive rains are being repaired too. The Committee also note from the replies of DoLR that barring treatment of waterlogged areas all the suggestions are implementable under WDC-PMKSY. The Committee, therefore, recommend

that new ideas and initiatives should be taken up by the DoLR so that the problematic areas are properly irrigated and farmers are not dependant on the rains for cultivating their land efficiently.

(Recommendation Sl. No.4)

Consultations with different State Level Nodal Agencies (SLNAs) for new Watershed Projects.

The Committee are happy to note that in the light of positive impact of on-going watershed projects, DOLR plan to roll out new generation projects covering 20m. ha. of land for a period 2021 to 2027 with increased cost norms of Rs.22,000/- per ha. for plain areas and Rs. 28,000 per ha. for hilly and difficult areas as against the existing cost norms of Rs. 12,000/- and Rs. 15,000/-. The Committee also note that DOLR have opined that even the higher funds may fall short for the proposed work and suggested that this shortfall will be covered by maximizing convergence of different Central and State Schemes like MGNREGA. The Committee, therefore, recommend that before roll out of the new generation watershed projects, the State Level Nodal Agencies (SLNAs) should be properly taken into confidence that existing grey areas like releasing of State share, non-submission of documents etc., do not become a hindrance. The Committee, therefore, also recommend that the Centre should take appropriate steps to eliminate the hurdles being faced during the implementation of the scheme for its efficient implementation on the ground.

(Recommendation Sl. No 5)

National Land Modernisation System

The Committee are perplexed to note that DoLR has not been able to complete required level of work for availability of National Land Modernization in the country that was started way back on 21st August, 2008 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and later revamped as DILRMP w.e.f. 1st April, 2016 with a deadline to complete the work by 2020-21. However, the progress of work under different components of DILRMP at varying levels across different States/UTs has led to its extension by 2023-24 with enhanced cost. The Committee, therefore, urge the Department to expedite the pace of different works under DILRMP within the time-frame of 2023-24 or earliest so as to reduce the cost escalation of the work done under DILRMP.

The Committee are further, perturbed to note that the low level of work has been done under the component Integration of Cadastral Maps with Record of Rights (RoR). In this context, the Committee note that out of 6.58 lakh villages in 24 States/UTs, only in 5.58 lakh village, the land records have been computerised. Similarly, out of 1.60 lakh cadastral maps in 22 States/UTs 1.09 lakh cadastral maps have been digitised. Likewise out of 5211 Sub Registrar Offices (SROs) only 4784 SROs have completed computerisation of Registration in 25 States/UTs. Finally out of 5211 SROs, Integration of SROs with Land Records has been completed in only 3844 SROs. In this regard, the Committee are, also concerned to note that there are sizeable number of States/UTs where the work done is either lower than 90% or not even started. The Committee, therefore, recommend that DoLR

should take steps to expedite the work of completing the component of integration of cadastral maps with Record of Rights (RoR) at the earliest in consonance of Digital India Programme and remove the hindrances which might delay the implementation of the Record of Rights component under DILRMP.

(Recommendation Sl. No.6)

Digitization of DILRMP

The Committee, during the evidence of the representatives of DoLR, noted that various issues like digitization of family-wise land records in Panchayats, imparting computer training to trainers, inability to upload the records, need for linking 7/12 records of land through computers for doing away with the present day hassle of Patwari system are not resolved so far. Moreover, perennial matters like updating the names of land owners in case of death, need for retaining the name of the father as second owner in case where father transferred his land to his heirs as a social security and need for uninterrupted 5 Mbps internet connectivity for doing seamless computer work in Gram Panchyats need to be taken up in a war footing by the Department for the smooth implementation of DILRMP. The Committee, hence, in order to increase the efficient implementation of the programme and training of the officials and staff in computers recommend that the DoLR should take appropriate steps to address these issues and make the system effective to get the desired results.

(Recommendation Sl. No.7)

DISHA Meetings

With regard to DISHA meetings, the Committee note that proper Minutes and Action Taken Reports are not being made and recorded properly. The Committee desire that during the DISHA meetings Senior Officers/ Head of the Department should be present to ensure compliance of the decision taken and strongly recommend that a suitable mechanism should be evolved to keep a check on the follow-up action taken on the observations of periodical DISHA meetings.

(Recommendation Sl. No.8)

'New Initiatives' of linking Aadhar Cards with Land Records

The Committee appreciate that DoLR have initiated new steps such as linking "Aadhar" with land records through Unique Land Parcel Identification (ULPIN) and integrating land records with Revenue Courts, while 'One Nation One Software' under National Generic Development Registration System (NGDRS) is to be rolled out during 2021-22. In the light of the prominent relevance of these new initiatives with regard to enhancing the ease of doing business in a significant way the Committee recommend that all these initiatives be implemented in a effective and time bound manner. The Committee may also be apprised of the progress made in this regard.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 9)

NEW DELHI;
08 March, 2021
17 Phalgun, 1942 (Saka)

PRATAPRAO JADHAV
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Rural Development

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT (2020-2021)

**MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY, THE 15th FEBRUARY, 2020**

The Committee sat from 1400 hrs. to 1640 hrs. in Committee Room 'D',
Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Prataprao Jadhav -- *Chairperson*

**MEMBERS
Lok Sabha**

2. Shri Rajveer Diler
3. Shri Vijay Kumar Dubey
4. Shri Narendra Kumar
5. Shri Janardan Mishra
6. Shri Vivek Narayan Shejwalkar
7. Dr. Alok Kumar Suman

Rajya Sabha

8. Shri Shamsheer Singh Dullo
9. Shri Iranna Kadadi
10. Dr. Wanweiroy Kharlukhi
11. Shri Sujeet Kumar
12. Shri Naranbhai Jemlabhai Rathwa

Secretariat

1. Shri D. R. Shekhar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri A. K. Shah - Director
3. Smt. Emma C. Barwa - Additional Director
4. Shri Nishant Mehra - Deputy Secretary

**Representatives of the Department of Land Resources
(Ministry of Rural Development)**

1. Shri Ajay Trikey - Secretary
2. Shri Hukum Singh Meena - Additional Secretary
3. Shri Ashish Upadhyay - Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor
4. Shri Mitter Sain - DDG (A&C)
5. Shri Umakant - Joint Secretary (WM)
6. Smt. Sudha Keshari - Economic Advisor (PME)
7. Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh - Director (WM)
8. Shri Sushil Kumar Daila - Director (LR)
9. Dr. C. P. Reddy - Sr. Addl. Commissioner

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee convened for taking the evidence of the representatives of the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development) in connection with the examination of Demands for Grants (2021-22) relating to Department of Land Resources.

[Witnesses were then called in]

3. After welcoming the witnesses, the Chairperson drew the attention of the Department that whatever the discussions held here would be treated as confidential and not to be made public till the Report of the Committee is presented to Parliament. The Chairperson then broadly mentioned about the scheme-wise funds proposed/allocated by the Department for the year 2021-22 under different schemes and requested the Secretary to brief the Committee thereon. Thereafter, the Secretary, Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development) made a Power Point Presentation *inter-alia* highlighting allocations viz. utilisation of funds in different years so far alongwith the budgetary allocation for the year 2021-22 and the initiatives taken under different schemes of Department of Land Resources.

4. Thereafter, the Members raised queries on issues ranging from adequacy of budget for different schemes/projects, its impact on the implementation of the schemes and the progress made by the Department in this regard, which were responded to by the witnesses.

5. The Chairperson then thanked the representatives of the Department of Land Resources and asked them to furnish written information on points raised by the Members on which the replies were not readily available as soon as possible, to this Secretariat.

[The Witnesses then withdrew]

A verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

The Committee then adjourned.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT (2020-2021)

**MINUTES OF THE NINTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY, THE 08 MARCH, 2021**

The Committee sat from 1400 hrs. to 1450 hrs. in Committee Room 'C', Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe Building (PHA), New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Prataprao Jadhav -- *Chairperson*

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Sukhbir Singh Jaunapuria
3. Dr. Mohammad Jawed
4. Prof. Rita Bahuguna Joshi
5. Shri Narendra Kumar
6. Shri Janardan Mishra
7. Shri B.Y. Raghavendra
8. Shri Talari Rangaiah
9. Smt. Gitaben Vajesingbhai Rathva
10. Smt. Mala Rajya Laxmi Shah
11. Shri Vivek Narayan Shejwalkar
12. Dr. Alok Kumar Suman
13. Shri Shyam Singh Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

14. Shri Shamsheer Singh Dullo
15. Shri Iranna Kadadi
16. Dr. Wanweirooy Kharlukhi
17. Shri Rathwa Naranbhai Jemlabhai
18. Shri Ajay Pratap Singh

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. Shri D. R. Shekhar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Shri A. K. Shah | - | Director |
| 3. Smt. Emma C. Barwa | - | Additional Director |
| 4. Shri Nishant Mehra | - | Deputy Secretary |

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2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee convened for consideration of three Draft Reports of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2021-22) in respect of XXX XXX XXX XXX, Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development) XXX XXX XXX XXX.

3. The Committee then took up for consideration of following three Draft Reports of the Committee:-

(i) XXX XXX XXX XXX

(ii) Draft Report on Demands for Grants (2021-22) of the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development);

(i) XXX XXX XXX XXX

3. Draft Reports were taken up for consideration one-by-one and after discussion, the Committee adopted the above Draft Report without any modifications. The Committee then authorized the Chairperson to finalize the aforesaid Draft Reports and present the same to the Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.

XXX Not related to the Draft Report

Appendix I

State wise and component wise, physical progress under DILRMP

(as on 5-1-2021)

S.N.	Component	Completed (Equal to or above 90%)	Ongoing (Above 0% & below 90%)	Not Started (Equal to 0%)
1	Computerization of Land Records (CLR)	24 States/UTs :	11 States/UTs :	2 States/UTs :
		ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS, ANDHRA PRADESH, DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI, GOA, GUJARAT, HARYANA, HIMACHAL PRADESH, JHARKHAND, KARNATAKA, LAKSHADWEEP, MADHYA PRADESH, MAHARASTRA, NCT OF DELHI, ODISHA, PUDUCHERRY, PUNJAB, RAJASTHAN, SIKKIM, TAMILNADU, TELANGANA, TRIPURA, UTTARAKHAND, UTTAR PRADESH, WEST BENGAL	ASSAM, BIHAR, CHANDIGARGH, CHATTISGARH, DAMAN & DIU, KERALA, LADAKH, MANIPUR, MIZORAM, NAGALAND, JAMMU & KASHMIR	ARUNACHAL PRADESH, MEGHALAYA
2	Digitization of Cadastral Maps	22 States/UTs :	10 States/UTs :	5 States/UTs :
		BIHAR, CHATTISGARH, DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI, GOA, GUJARAT, HARYANA, JAMMU & KASHMIR,	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS, ANDHRA PRADESH, ASSAM, HIMACHAL PRADESH, MAHARASTRA, PUNJAB,	ARUNACHAL PRADESH, CHANDIGARGH, DAMAN & DIU, LADAKH, MEGHALAYA

		JHARKHAND, KARNATAKA, KERALA, LAKSHADWEEP, MADHYA PRADESH, MANIPUR, MIZORAM, NAGALAND, NCT OF DELHI, ODISHA, PUDUCHERRY, SIKKIM, TAMILNADU, TRIPURA, WEST BENGAL	RAJASTHAN, TELANGANA, UTTARAKHAND, UTTAR PRADESH	
3	Integration of Cadastral Maps with RoRs	6 States/UTs :	19 States/UTs :	12 States/UTs :
		CHATTISGARH, GOA, JHARKHAND, ODISHA, TRIPURA, WEST BENGAL	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS, ANDHRA PRADESH, ASSAM, BIHAR, DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI, GUJARAT, HIMACHAL PRADESH, LAKSHADWEEP, MADHYA PRADESH, MAHARASTRA, MANIPUR, MIZORAM, NAGALAND, NCT OF DELHI, RAJASTHAN, TAMILNADU, TELANGANA, UTTARAKHAND, UTTAR PRADESH	ARUNACHAL PRADESH, CHANDIGARGH, DAMAN & DIU, HARYANA, JAMMU & KASHMIR, KARNATAKA, KERALA, LADAKH, MEGHALAYA, PUDUCHERRY, PUNJAB, SIKKIM
4	Computerization of Property Registration (CPR)	27 States/UTs :	6 States/UTs :	4 States/UTs :
		ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS, ANDHRA PRADESH, ASSAM, BIHAR, CHANDIGARGH, CHATTISGARH, DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI, GOA, GUJARAT, HARYANA, HIMACHAL PRADESH JHARKHAND, KARNATAKA,	DAMAN & DIU, , LADAKH, MANIPUR, MEGHALAYA, MIZORAM, TAMILNADU	ARUNACHAL PRADESH, JAMMU & KASHMIR, LAKSHADWEEP, NAGALAND

		KERALA, MADHYA PRADESH, MAHARASTRA, NCT OF DELHI, ODISHA, PUDUCHERRY, PUNJAB, RAJASTHAN, SIKKIM, TELANGANA, TRIPURA, UTTARAKHAND, UTTAR PRADESH, WEST BENGAL		
5	Integration of Land Records and Property Registration	20 States/UTs :	8 States/UTs :	9 States/UTs :
		ANDHRA PRADESH, BIHAR, DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI, GOA, GUJARAT, HARYANA, JHARKHAND, KARNATAKA, KERALA, MADHYA PRADESH, MAHARASTRA, NCT OF DELHI, ODISHA, PUDUCHERRY, RAJASTHAN, SIKKIM, TELANGANA, TRIPURA, UTTARAKHAND, WEST BENGAL	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS, ASSAM, CHATTISGARH, HIMACHAL PRADESH, LADAKH, PUNJAB, TAMILNADU, UTTAR PRADESH	ARUNACHAL PRADESH, CHANDIGARGH, DAMAN & DIU, JAMMU & KASHMIR, LAKSHADWEEP, MANIPUR, MEGHALAYA, MIZORAM, NAGALAND

F. No. H-11011/5/2020-LRD (e-3010663)

Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Land Resources
(Land Regulations Division)

NBO Building, Nirman Bhawan
New Delhi – 110011

Dated: 22.2.2021

To

The Principal Secretary / Secretary
Revenue Department
Government of Gujarat/Maharashtra

Sub: Seeking of written replies on points arising out of evidence of the representatives of Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, held on 15th February, 2021 on Demand for Grants (DFG) (2021-22) – regarding.

Sir,

Consequent upon submission of evidence on Demand for Grants for 2021-22 by this Department before the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development on 15.2.2021 followed by discussion thereon, the following issues have been raised by the Hon'ble Committee vide OM No. 12/3/2-LR-CRD/2021 dated 19.2.2021 (copy enclosed):

- a. *Need for making available updated 'Sua-Bara' record in the country as the applicant is to run around before Local Patwaris for this (point ix).*
- b. *Need for updated Survey Number details of land in Maharashtra (point xv).*

2. This department has been implementing the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) since 2008-09 for computerization of land records as well as survey in all villages of the country. Thus, the scheme covers updating the land records/Survey Number too.

3. It is requested to kindly look into the issues mentioned above pertaining to your respective States on priority and take requisite action for resolving them.

4. It is also requested to kindly submit a status report on the aforesaid issues to this Department at the earliest.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully,



(Asit Halder)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

F. No. H-11011/5/2020-LRD (e-3010863)
Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Land Resources
(Land Regulations Division)

NBO Building, Nirman Bhawan
New Delhi – 110011
Dated: 22.2.2021

To
The Principal Secretary / Secretary
Revenue Department
(All States/UTs)

Sub: Seeking of written replies on points arising out of evidence of the representatives of Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, held on 15th February, 2021 on Demand for Grants (DFG) (2021-22) – regarding.

Sir,

Consequent upon submission of evidence on Demand for Grants for 2021-22 by this Department before the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development on 15.2.2021 followed by discussion thereon, the following issue has been raised by the Hon'ble Committee vide OM No. 12/3/2-LR-CRD/2021 dated 19.2.2021 (copy enclosed):

Clear demarcation of different ways like pedestrian, road ways connectivity in rural areas after sitting with local Patwaris and revenue officials (point xii).

2. This department has been implementing the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) since 2008-09 for computerization of land records/maps as well as survey in all villages of the country. Thus, the scheme covers updating the land records/maps too.
3. It has been reported that there are several instances wherein land portion which had actually been acquisitioned/donated for roads, pathway etc. on ground long ago is still not reflected in land records/maps resulting in disputes/cases.
4. It is requested to kindly look into the issue mentioned above pertaining to your respective States on priority and take requisite action for resolving it.
5. It is also requested to kindly submit a status report on the aforesaid issue to this Department at the earliest.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully,



(Asit Halder)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

हुकुम सिंह मीना, भा.प्र.से.
अपर सचिव
HUKUM SINGH MEENA, IAS
ADDITIONAL SECRETARY



Annexure-1

भूमि संसाधन विभाग
ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार
Department of Land Resource
Ministry of Rural Development
Government of India

D.O. H-11011/5/2020-LRD

Dated the 23rd February, 2021

Dear Dr. Rajendra Kumar Ji,

Consequent upon submission of evidence on Demand for Grants for 2021-22 by this Department before the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development on 15.2.2021 followed by discussion thereon, the following issues have been raised by the Hon'ble Committee vide OM No. 12/3/2-LR-CRD/2021 dated 19.2.2021 (copy enclosed):

- a. *Ensuring uninterrupted internet connectivity of 5 MBPS for Panchayats (point vii).*
- b. *Need for flawless work for ensuring long lasting 5 MBPS connectivity as on-going work is faulty and may not long (last) even 4 years (point viii).*

2. As you may be aware, this department has been implementing the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) since 2008-09 for computerization of all rural land records in the country and their online access/download. Thus, the success of this scheme largely depends on the internet connectivity as well as the bare minimum speed (5 mbps) in villages/panchayats for downloading records.

3. Since the nodal ministry for internet connectivity is MeitY, it is requested to kindly look into the aforesaid issues on priority and take requisite action for providing durable internet facility with 5 mbps in all villages/panchayats of the country.

4. I would really appreciate if you may also kindly apprise me about the present internet availability status at panchayat/village level and efforts being made by MeitY in this regard and the tentative timeline by which all panchayats/villages would be covered with a minimum internet speed of 5 mbps.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Hukum Singh Meena
(Hukum Singh Meena)

23/02/2021

Dr. Rajendra Kumar
Additional Secretary
Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)
Electronics Niketan, 6, CGO Complex,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi, Delhi 110003