

I. DROUGHT PRONE AREAS PROGRAMME (DPAP)

DPAP is the earliest area development programme launched by the Central Government in 1973-74 to tackle the special problems faced by those fragile areas, which are constantly affected by severe drought conditions.

1.1 SIGNIFICANCE OF DPAP

The programme aims at promoting overall economic development and improving the socio-economic condition of the resource poor and disadvantaged sections inhabiting the programme areas through creation, widening and equitable distribution of the resource base and increased employment opportunities.

1.2 IMPORTANT ELEMENTS

- (a) Integrated watershed management and management of water resources.
- (b) Soil and moisture conservation measures.
- (c) Afforestation with special emphasis on social and agro-forestry.

1.3 FEATURES

Initially, this programme laid emphasis on the construction of labour-intensive civil works. But later on, it emphasised irrigation projects, land development programmes, afforestation, grassland development and creation of basic rural infrastructures such as electricity, roads, market, credit and services.

1.4 GOVERNMENT SCHEMES FOR DROUGHT IN INDIA

1. The Central Government implements Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)
2. Central Sector (CS) Schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)
3. Rainfed Area Development Programme (RAD),
4. National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP)
