

Particulars of Organization, Function and Duties

A. Genesis

The National Wasteland Development Board (NWDB) was set up in the year 1985 under Ministry of Environment and Forests with the principal aim of bringing wastelands in the country into productive use through a massive programme of afforestation and tree plantations.

In July, 1992, the National Wasteland Development Board was reconstituted and placed in the newly created Department of Wasteland Development under Ministry of Rural Development. Subsequently, the Department of Wasteland Development was renamed as Department of Land Resources vide Gazette Notification dated 09-04-1999 transferring Land Reform Division, DPAP and DDP Divisions of the Department of Rural Development to the newly created Department. Consequently, on creation of this Department, 32 posts; both Technical and General, were transferred from Ministry of Environment and Forests to Department of Land Resources.

B. Allocation of Business: As per the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961(as amended), the following Business have been allotted to Department of Land Resources (Bhumi Sansadhan Vibhag) :

1. Land reforms, land tenures, land records, consolidation of holding and other related matters.
2. Administration of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (1 of 1894) and matters relating to acquisition of land for purposes of the Union.
3. Recovery of claims in a State in respect of taxes and other public demands, including arrears of land revenue and sums recoverable as such arrears, arising outside that State.
4. Land, that is to say, collection of rents, transfer and alienation of land, land improvement and agricultural loans excluding acquisition of non-agricultural land or buildings, town planning improvements.
5. Land revenue, including the assessment and collection of revenue, survey of revenue purposes, alienation of revenues.
- 6¹. The Registration Act, 1908 (16 of 1908).
7. Duties in respect of succession to agricultural land.
8. National Wastelands Development Board.

9. National Land Use and Wasteland Development Council.
10. Promotion of rural employment through Wastelands Development.
11. Promotion of production of fuelwood, fodder and timber on non-forest lands, including private wastelands.
12. Research and development of appropriate low cost technologies for increasing productivity of wastelands in sustainable ways.
13. Inter-departmental and inter-disciplinary coordination in programme planning and implementation of the Wastelands Development Programme including training.
14. Promotion of people's participation and public cooperation and coordination of efforts of Panchayats and voluntary and non-Government agencies for Wastelands Development.
15. Drought prone area programmes.
16. Desert Development Programmes.
- 17². (i) National Mission on Bio-fuels;

(ii) bio-fuel plant production, propagation and commercial plantation of bio-fuel plants under various schemes of the Ministry of Rural Development in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and the Ministry of Panchayati Raj; and

(iii) identification of non-forest land wastelands in consultation with; the State Governments, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and the Ministry of Panchayati Raj for bio-fuel plant production.

¹Inserted vide Amendment series no.286 dated 01.06.2006

²Inserted vide Amendment series no.287 dated 12.07.2006

C. Vision

- To ensure sustainable improvement in productivity and livelihood / income potential of land through development of rainfed and degraded areas including wastelands and to fulfill Nation's commitment under SDG No.15 (15.3: By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods and strive to achieve a land degradation – neutral world).

- To develop an appropriate integrated land information management system, which will inter alia improve real-time information on land, optimize use of land resources and assist in policy/planning.

D. Mission

- To ensure sustainable development of rainfed cultivable and degraded lands through a participatory approach by involving the stakeholders in decision making in the watershed development programmes and making concerted efforts to enhance the productivity of wastelands thereby enhancing livelihood opportunities in rural areas.
- To put in place effective agrarian reforms, including an efficient land use policy, and a transparent Land Records Management System (LRMS) with the aim to build an Integrated Land Information Management System (ILIMS). This system of integrated land information management will ultimately yield into security of tenancy to citizen, reduced land disputes, simplified procedure for transfer of properties title, fraudulent free landed properties transactions, etc.

E. Objectives

The main objectives of the Department are:

1. To increase productivity of rainfed/degraded land through the process of integrated watershed management;
2. To support States/UTs for implementation of with the aim to achieve a comprehensive land governance system known as Integrated Land Information Management System;
3. To administer land reforms and other related matters relating to land such as administration of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (RFCTLARR), the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy of 2007, the Registration Act, 1908, etc.

F. Functions of the Department

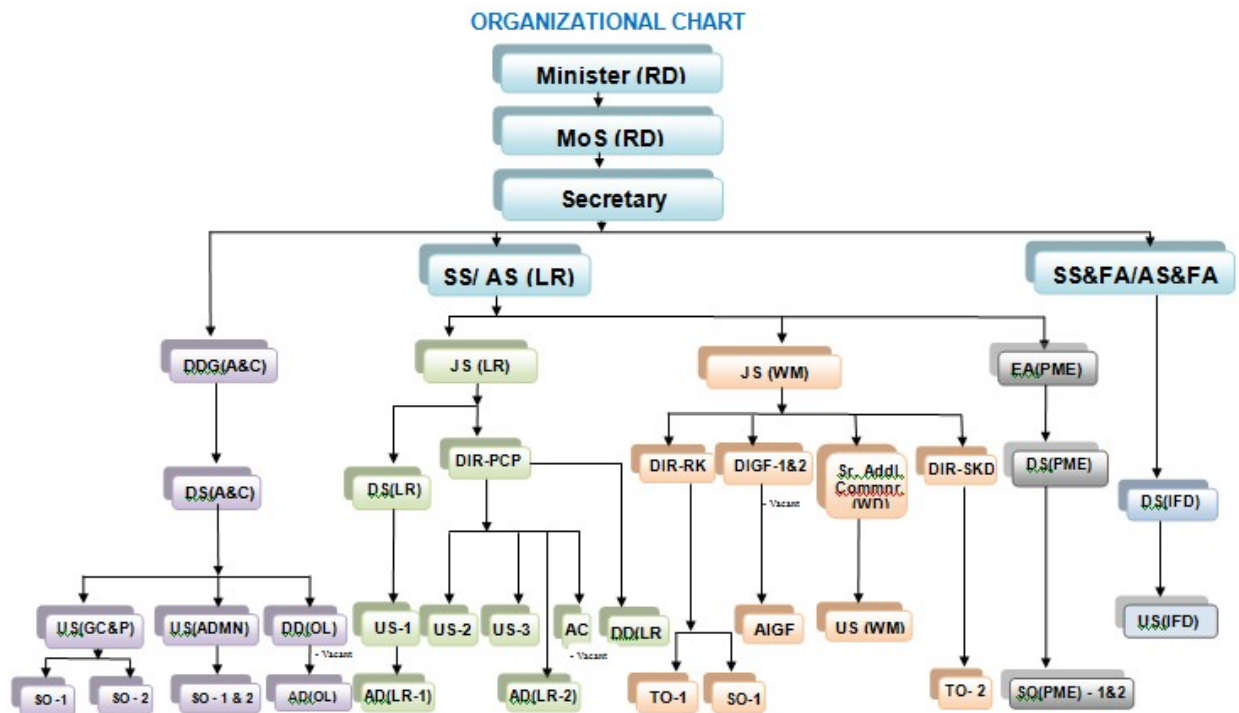
The following are the functions of the Department of Land Resources:

1. Implementation of watershed programme for development of rainfed / degraded areas.
2. Guide and facilitate States to modernize land record management & build up a land information system.
3. Facilitate States efforts to usher in conclusive titling system.

4. Administration of The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 and matters relating to acquisition of land for purposes of the Union and Registration Act, 1908.
5. To facilitate adoption of policy for Rehabilitation & Resettlement of displaced people.
6. Land reforms, land tenure, land records, consolidation of holdings and other related matters.

G. Organizational Set-up

The Department of Land Resources (DoLR) is headed by Minister of Rural Development (Cabinet Minister) and Minister of State (MoS). Secretary is the Administrative Head of the Department.



Abbreviations used:

SS: Special Secretary, AS: Additional Secretary, FA: Financial Advisor, JS: Joint Secretary, EA: Economic Advisor, Dir: Director, DIG: Deputy Inspector General, DS: Deputy Secretary, DD: Deputy Director, US: Under Secretary, AC: Assistant Commissioner, AD: Assistant Director, SO: Section Officer, TO: Technical Officer, Admn: Administration, GC&P: General Coordination & Parliament, IFD: Integrated Finance Division, LR: Land Regulation, PME: Programme Monitoring and Evaluation, OL: Official Language, WM: Watershed Management, SAC: Senior Additional Commissioner.

The details of Secretaries holding the charge of Department of Land Resources so far are as under;

Sl. No.	Name of Secretaries (Sh./ Smt./Ms.)	Period	
		From	To
1.	Rita Sinha	07.01.2008	31.07.2010
2.	Anita Chaudhary	01.08.2010	22.08.2011
3.	Navin Kumar	23.08.2011	28.09.2011
4.	B.K.Sinha	29.09.2011	23.11.2011
5.	S. Vijay. Kumar	24.11.2011	09.02.2012
6.	Anita Chaudhary	10.02.2012	30.09.2012
7.	Pankaj Jain	01.10.2012	04.11.2012
8.	B.B.Srivastava	05.11.2012	30.11.2013
9.	Vandana Kumari Jena	03.12.2013	31.07.2015
10.	J.K.Mohapatra	04.06.2015	31.08.2015
11.	Vijay S. Madan	01.09.2015	30.06.2018
12.	Dinesh Singh	01.09.2016	30.06.2018
13.	Anant Kumar Singh	10.08.2018	31.03.2019
14.	Ruolkhumlien Buhril	01.04.2019	31.07.2020
15.	Ajay Tirkey	03.08.2020	

H. Department of Land Resources (DoLR) has five Divisions which fundamentally discharge the following responsibilities:

1. Watershed Management Division is responsible for implementation of Watershed Development component – Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY), World Bank assisted – new multi-State Watershed Project namely “Rejuvenating Watershed for Agricultural Resilience through Innovative Development (REWARD), Inter-departmental and inter-disciplinary coordination in planning and implementation of the Watershed Development Programmes including training, Climate Change and International Cooperation of watershed management, etc.

2. Land Regulations Division is responsible for the administration of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013; the Registration Act, 1908; State specific Amendments under these Acts and related Land issues, implementation of Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP), issues related to National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 etc. Division is also responsible for Land Governance and Assessment Framework (LGAF), National Land Use Policy, National Land Reforms Policy, Land Use Planning, Land Leasing Laws, Land Reforms, Land Tenures, etc.

3. Programme Monitoring and Evaluation is responsible for monitoring of two programmes viz.- Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) and Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojna(WDC-PMKSY) being implemented by the Department. The important activities of the Division during 2019-20 are monitoring of MIS-IWMP, SHRISHTI-DRISHTI, Impact Assessment/evaluation of the schemes of WDC-PMKSY and DILRMP and Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Activities.

4. Administration and Coordination Division undertakes Establishment matters including vigilance matters, recruitments, training of officers, public grievances, international cooperation and foreign deputation of officers. It also deals with implementation of e-office, RTI matters, promotion of Official Language, protocol matters, upkeep of Departmental portal and updation of information on other portals, procurement of goods and services, O&M matters and all other general administration issues.

The Coordination Division of the Department is responsible to manage issues relating to e-Samiksha, PRAGATI, SGOS recommendations, GoM recommendations, President's Address, PM's Independence Day Address, FM's Budget Speech, Inter-State Council, Monthly D.O, Monthly Summary, Annual Report, Hon'ble MoRD/MoS(RD)/PMO/Cabinet Secretariat/NITI Aayog, etc. which involve coordination with other Divisions of the Department. It also works as Nodal Division for Parliamentary matters such as Parliament Questions, Parliament Assurances, Parliamentary Committees and for RTI related matters such as scrutiny of RTI Applications/Appeals & forwarding/transferring them through RTIMIS Portal, Filing of Annual Returns, monitoring of pro-active disclosures and Transparency Audit, etc.

5. The Integrated Finance Division of Ministry of Rural Development acts as a watchdog of Ministry of Finance to ensure financial discipline and adherence to financial procedures. It provides financial concurrence for release of funds from the Budget Allocation of the Department. Besides that, the Division is also responsible for the finalization of Demands for Grants, Budget Estimates/Revised Estimates and Internal Audit, etc.

I. Office Locations:

Sl. No	Location	Divisions
1	Department of Land Resources NBO Building, G-Wings, Nirman Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road,	Land Regulations(LR) Division, Administration & Public Grievances Division, Coordination, Parliament & RTI Division, Hindi Section, Cash Section, Integrated Finance Division

	New Delhi -110011	
2	Department of Land resources 6th floor, Block -11 CGO Complex, Lodhi Road New Delhi -110003	Programme Monitoring & Evaluation (PME) Division,
3	Department of Land resources, 2 nd Floor, Shivaji Stadium Annexe, New Delhi-110001	Watershed Management(WM) Division