

Additional Funds for Irrigation Project

4720. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE:
SHRI GIRDHARI YADAV:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have requested for additional assistance from the Union Government for some important irrigation projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government for allocation of funds for the purpose during 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Fifteen State Governments have requested the Union Government for Special Central Assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme announced by the Union Government for inclusion under the Budget Estimates for 1996-97.

(b) A Statement giving State-wise number of major and medium irrigation projects proposed by them for inclusion under the above programme is enclosed.

(c) An amount of Rs. 900 crores has been provided in the budget estimates of the Ministry of Water Resources for the year 1996-97 for release of loans to the States under the Programme.

STATEMENT

Statement giving details of proposals received from the State Govts. for inclusion under Accelerated irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP)

Sl. No.	State	No. of projects proposed for inclusion under the AIBP	
		Major	Medium
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	2
2.	Assam	5	5
3.	Bihar	8	—
4.	Haryana	1	—
5.	Goa	1	—
6.	Gujarat	3	16
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	6
8.	Karnataka	7	1
9.	Madhya Pradesh	4	—
10.	Maharashtra	22	21

1	2	3	4
11.	Orissa	4	—
12.	Punjab	1	—
13.	Rajasthan	3	6
14.	Tripura	—	5
15.	Uttar Pradesh	11	5
Total:		72	65

New Passport Offices in Karnataka

4721. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government propose to open more Regional Passport Offices in the State of Karnataka on the lines of opening of three Regional Passport Offices in Kerala;

(b) if so, by when;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government are aware that the work load at the Regional Passport Office, Bangalore is heavier than that of Kerala;

(e) if so, the average number of applications for passports cleared by the offices at Kerala and Karnataka every month;

(f) criteria fixed for opening of Regional Passport Offices in the States; and

(g) the action taken/proposed to be taken to open more offices in Karnataka in the near future and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (g) At present no proposal is under consideration to open new Passport Offices in the state of Karnataka which has a Passport Office at Bangalore and a Passport Collection Centre at Mangalore.

Annual input of applications for issue of fresh passports from the state of Kerala is more than 3 times that of the state of Karnataka. A comparative statement showing the number of applications received during the years 1993, 1994 and 1995 is enclosed. It will be seen that the average number of applications received per month during the year 1995 from the state of Karnataka and the state of Kerala averaged 8140 and 25350 respectively.

Opening of new Passport Offices is based on a number of factors such as the number of passport applications received from an area, accessibility of a location, availability of manpower, constraints necessitating financial approvals for creation of posts.

Based on these criteria, there is a constant review of opening new Passport Offices.

STATEMENT

Year	Number of applications received for fresh passports	
	Karnataka	Kerala
1993	111035	Cochin 137771
		Kozhikode 206917
		Trivandrum 124600
	Total 469288	
1994	82083	Cochin 94933
		Kozhikode 162795
		Trivandrum 95691
	Total 353419	
1995	97741	Cochin 105955
		Kozhikode 133067
		Trivandrum 90432
	Total 329454	

Admission in Schools

4722. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to enact a law to the effect that children below four years would not be provided admission in schools; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) There is no proposal to enact a law to the effect that children below four years would not be provided admission in schools, under consideration of the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

(b) Does not arise.

Under Utilisation of Funds

4723. SHRI RAMSAGAR:
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:
SHRI I.D. SWAMI:
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA:
DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Mid-day-meal, literacy schemes' funds underutilised" which appeared in 'The Times of India' dated August 13, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the funds allocated and utilised under the said schemes during 1995-96, State-wise; and

(d) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Mid-day Meal Scheme, the funds released to the Food Corporation of India which supplies foodgrains to the States, were Rs. 441.38 crores in 1995-96, against an initial budget provision of Rs. 611.79 crores.

As regards literacy schemes, the total expenditure in 1995-96 was Rs. 142.64 crore against a budget provision of Rs. 234.00 crore.

(c) Under the Mid-day Meal Scheme, the States are allocated foodgrains to be supplied by the Food Corporation of India. The Statewise allocation and lifting of foodgrains in 1995-96 is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

Under the Literacy schemes, the funds are allocated scheme-wise. The scheme-wise allocation and utilisation of the funds in 1995-96 is provided in the attached Statement-II.

(d) The schemes are being regularly monitored and reviewed at District, State and Central levels, so that remedial measures are initiated.