

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1129
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2002
PENDING IRRIGATION PROJECTS
ANANDRAO ADSUL

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 171 irrigation projects pending from previous plans are being included in the Tenth Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, whether many of the said projects are pending from the First Five Year Plan onwards;
- (c) if so, the reasons for not completing these projects so far; and
- (d) the efforts being made to complete these projects in the Tenth Plan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BHOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) & (d) The main reasons for not completing these irrigation projects include thin spreading of resources by taking up too many irrigation schemes without focusing on their completion, resettlement & rehabilitation of project affected families, land acquisition problem, contractual disputes and litigation, completion of head works first without constructing the distribution system, etc.

Concerned with such a large number of projects spilling over from Plan to Plan, the Central Government launched Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) during 1996-97 for accelerating implementation of ongoing irrigation/multi-purpose projects on which substantial progress has been made and which are beyond the resource capability of the State Governments and for other major and medium irrigation projects which are in advanced stage of construction. The Central Government has also launched Fast Track Programme during 2001-2002 which envisages providing 100% loan for such approved major/medium irrigation projects which can be completed in 1 year (in two working seasons).