

(b) the year-wise funds allocated and actually utilised for the work;

(c) the target date fixed for completion of the work as per plan;

(d) whether it is a fact that not even fifty percent of the work has been done during last nine years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) The work actually started in the year 1991.

(b) The funds are allocated state-wise and year-wise and not work-wise. The year-wise funds allocated to West Bengal Government for development of NHs (Original) works including Externally Aided Projects and Bridge Fee fund are as under:—

Year	Allocation of fund (Rs. in lakhs)
1991-92	1634.00
1992-93	2230.00
1993-94	3500.00
1994-95	3987.00
1995-96	3810.00
1996-97	

The year-wise actual expenditure incurred on works of Falkata-Pundibari diversion including Torsa bridge is as under:—

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)
1991-92	145.00
1992-93	199.00
1993-94	128.00
1994-95	203.00

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)
1995-96	557.00
1996-97 (up to June, 1996)	144.00

(c) to (e). The target date of completion is March, 1998. The delay in Progress of work is due to contractual complications and delay in award of the work, slow progress/mobilisation by the Contractor, and constraints of fund.

Irrigation Projects in Maharashtra

3788. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of irrigation projects in Vidharbha Region of Maharashtra have run into serious trouble due to cost escalation and time over-run;

(b) if so, the reasons and details thereof—project wise, including original cost approved, schedule of works, execution and provision of funds vis-a-vis actual performance, inadequate release of funds resulting in delay in execution of the project and consequent cost escalation;

(c) whether the performance of irrigation projects under execution has been reviewed, if so, the results thereof; and

(d) the details of the revised action plan/funding plan worked out for each project in Vidharbha region for scheduled completion?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). A statement giving details of Major & Medium irrigation Projects of Vidharbha Region of Maharashtra which have run into trouble is enclosed.

(c) The Projects are reviewed every year during Annual Plan discussion by Central Water Commission, Planning Commission and State authorities and allocation of funds is decided for each project.

(d) Irrigation is a State subject and the projects are planned, implemented and funded by the States themselves. The Central assistance is in the form of block loans and grants not tied to any project or programme.

STATEMENT*Details of on-going Major & Medium Irrigation Projects of Vidharbha Region of Maharashtra which have run into problem*

Sl. No.	Name of Projects	Approved Cost	Latest Estd Cost	Expendr. upto 3/92	Outlay/Expenditure		Rs. in crores		Likely date of completion
					92-93 Outlay Exp.	93-94 Outlay Exp.	94-95 Outlay Exp.	Outlay for 1995-96	
Major									
1.	Wan	46.85 (TAC)	135.00	22.57	11.40 11.40	20.00 10.56	13.50 12.50	30.00	Beyond VIII plan
2.	Arunavati	66.48 (TAC)	70.00	47.14	12.00 12.00	14.00 18.55	13.00 15.89	12.00	VIII plan
3.	Lower Wardha	UA	232.00	4.62	1.00 1.00	- 1.00	1.40	-	Beyond VIII plan
4.	Upper Wardha	39.88 (A)	457.00	170.70	21.00 30.00	30.00 34.00	29.00 38.50	33.00	-do-
5.	Lower Wunna	87.55 (TAC)	187.00	50.47	11.00 14.60	14.50 14.59	9.00 17.75	45.00	-do-
6.	Bawanthodi (I.S.)	161.57 (TAC)	261.00	12.44	0.20 0.20	1.00 2.70	5.00 2.50	4.00	-do-
7.	Gosikhurd	461.19 (A)	1345.00	18.32	15.00 17.70	30.00 29.63	25.00 37.66	27.00	-do-
8.	Human	U.A.	69.57	4.67	0.02 0.02	0.05 0.05	0.05 0.05	—	-do-
9.	Tultuli	U.A.	82.94	3.55	0.02 0.02	0.05 0.05	0.05 0.05	—	-do-
Medium Projects									
1.	Mun	5.53 (A)	49.00	22.46	4.00 5.35	4.90 3.15	4.90 4.60	6.00	Beyond VIII plan
2.	Shahneer	8.77 (A)	50.00	42.00	2.00 2.90	2.50 2.50	1.50 1.00	6.40	VIII plan
3.	Pandhari Nalla	0.83 (A)	9.00	0.27	0.05 0.05	0.30 0.30	0.05 0.05	0.05	Beyond VIII plan
4.	Jan	11.75 (TAC)	42.00	4.43	2.50 2.50	5.00 3.20	4.00 4.50	4.00	-do-
5.	Umarzari	UA	8.00	1.14	0.00 0.00	0.00 2.67	1.50 1.40	—	-do-
6.	Pakadgudam	1.64 (A)	20.00	6.83	1.00 1.85	3.00 3.00	1.00 3.00	3.00	-do-

Sl. No.	Name of Projects	Approved Cost	Latest Estd Cost	Expendr. upto 3/92	Outlay/Expenditure			Rs. in crores	Outlay for 1995-96	Likely date of completion
					92-93 Outlay Exp.	93-94 Outlay Exp.	94-95 Outlay Exp.			
7.	Donger Goah	2.15 (A)	8.00	0.40	0.00 0.00	0.50 0.20	0.05 0.55	—	-do-	
8.	Channe Nadi	UA	6.00	1.03	0.00 0.10	0.00 0.00	0.05 0.05	—	-do-	
9.	Karwappa Nalla	4.70 (A)	15.00	2.71	0.01 0.11	0.05 0.05	0.05 1.05	0.05	-do-	

A : Approved

UA - Unapproved

TAC - Found acceptable by the Advisory Committee.

Arsenic Pollution in West Bengal

3789. SHRI PRADEEP BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that diseases due to Arsenic pollution in West Bengal are increasing rapidly;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government, with the help of foreign health authorities, propose to take any concrete steps to eradicate the diseases, which are increasing due to Arsenic pollution;

(c) the total assistance Union Government have rendered to the State Government for the same during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether the Union Government have been urged by the State Government to allocate more funds for the same; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of West Bengal has reported that diseases due to Arsenic pollution are on the rise.

(b) Two experts from WHO are presently undertaking a study on the arsenic contamination related health problems in West Bengal.

(c) to (e). The Union Government has assured the State Government to provide full support in obtaining the approval of the Planning Commission to the Action Plan prepared by

them, involving an expenditure of Rs. 7 crores, to combat arsenic related health problems in West Bengal.

The Union Government have also made the following releases of funds to the State for supply of clean drinking water.

Year	Rs. in lakhs
1993-94	480.92
1994-95	607.04
1995-96	2873.73

Dredging in the River Bed of Brahmaputra

3790. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Inland Waterways Authority of India had a plan for dredging in the river bed of the Brahmaputra from Dhubri to Guwahati in order to ensure a minimum of two metres depth in this stretch;

(b) if so, whether the task has since been completed; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Admission of Foreign Students in Education Centres

3791. SHRI GANGA RAM KOLI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: