

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:846
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2005
CONFERENCE IN WATER SECTOR
Pathak Shri Brajesh

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a two days conference of Chief Secretaries, Secretaries and Command Area Officers of Irrigation and Water Resources Departments of States was organized recently in Delhi to complete the ongoing irrigation projects under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP);
- (b) if so, the details of issues discussed and the decisions arrived at therein;
- (c) whether the Government has implemented the suggestions/recommendations made in the conference; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES, PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV)

(a) Yes, Sir. A two day conference of Principal Secretaries/Secretaries (Irrigation and Water Resources) and Command Area Authorities of States was held on 4th and 5th October, 2005 at New Delhi which inter-alia discussed completion of ongoing irrigation projects under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme(AIBP).

(b) to (d) The issues discussed were steps taken by the State Governments to complete the projects, new project proposals to be brought under AIBP, raising the loan component of central assistance by the States from the market and monitoring the physical and financial progress of projects under AIBP. The conference recommended the following:-

Ã Identify the schemes to be included under Bharat Nirman and prepare and submit a 'Plan of Action' to the Ministry of Water Resources.

Ã Specify the sources of funding for identified schemes under Bharat Nirman, in consultation with the State Finance Department.

Ã The States should adhere to the schedule for completion of each ongoing project as provided in the Memorandum of Undertaking submitted by the States.

Ã Every effort would be made by the respective State/Centre to obtain investment approval for all the ongoing unapproved projects.

Ã Centre may facilitate speedy resolution of inter-State issues, like share- cost, hampering the progress of inter-State Projects.

The recommendations of the conference have been brought to the notice of the States for compliance.