

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1816

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010

VIOLATION OF AIBP GUIDELINES

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**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) the salient features of Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP);
- (b) whether some State Governments have violated the AIBP guidelines and misutilised/diverted the funds granted under AIBP to other work;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the action taken by the Government thereon;
- (d) whether out of targeted irrigation potential of 9.65 million hectares, only 4.90 million hectares were achieved in the last 15 years; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to achieve the targeted potential?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) Some of the important features of the existing guidelines of Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme are given below:

1. Major/medium projects including Extension Renovation & Modernization projects benefiting drought prone/tribal areas and flood prone areas are eligible for 90% grant assistance.
2. Major/medium projects in the Special Category States and projects in undivided Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi districts of Orissa are also eligible for 90% grant assistance.
3. Other major/medium projects are eligible for 25% grant assistance under AIBP.
4. Surface water minor irrigation (SWMI) schemes benefiting the Special Category States, and drought prone/tribal areas of non Special Category States are eligible for 90% grant assistance.
5. Time allowed for completion of major/medium projects under AIBP is 4 years excluding the year of inclusion of the project under AIBP.
6. Time allowed for completion of SWMI schemes under AIBP is 2 years excluding the year of inclusion of the scheme under AIBP.
7. The state governments are required to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Ministry of Water Resources for timely completion of the project specifying year wise targets of potential creation under AIBP.
8. A new major/medium project may be included in AIBP only on completion of an ongoing project under AIBP on one to one basis. However, projects benefiting drought prone/tribal areas, projects in the states having irrigation development below national average and projects included in the Prime Minister's package for Agrarian Distress Districts of the Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra may be included in AIBP in relaxation to one to one criterion.

Cabinet Committee on Infrastructures in its meeting held on 13th May 2010 considered proposal of the Ministry of Water Resources for further relaxation in the AIBP guidelines and approved the following proposals:

1. Allowing funding for three projects benefitting areas under Desert Development Programme (DDP) under AIBP at par with projects benefiting Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) area; and
2. Enhancing present cost norm for SWMI schemes from Rs.1.50 lakh per hectare to Rs.2.00 lakh per hectare for the purpose of inclusion of projects under AIBP with the condition that wherever the estimated cost of the project is more than Rs.1.50 lakh per hectare, the AIBP assistance would be limited to the cost norm of Rs.1.50 lakh per hectare.

(b): The Comptroller and Auditor General of India in its report titled "Performance Audit of the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) Union Government (Civil) No.4 of 2010-11" has reported diversion of funds in respect of several States;

(c): The State wise details of the funds reported to have been diverted in the above referred CAG Report are as under:

Sl.No.	State	Amount reported as diverted in CAG Report No.4 (Rs. In crore)
1	Gujarat	675.20
2	Assam	0.31
3	Haryana	15.34
4	Himachal Pradesh	0.40
5	Jammu & Kashmir	2.02
6	Jharkhand	10.50
7	Karnataka	8.80
8	Manipur	3.74
9	Nagaland	0.29
10	Orissa	9.39
11	Punjab	15.12
12	Rajasthan	182.25
13	Sikkim	0.25
14	Tripura	0.94
15	Uttar Pradesh	30.65

The CAG has recommended that Government of India may recover the amounts diverted by the State Governments, if necessary, by making deductions from the next instalment of Plan Assistance to the defaulting State Governments. The above issue has to be examined by the respective State Governments.

(d) & (e): The targeted potential under AIBP keeps on changing as the new projects/project components are included in the Programme from time to time. As of now, the targeted potential of all major/medium/minor irrigation projects under AIBP is about 134 lakh hectare of which, irrigation potential of 59.40 lakh hectares is created up to March 2009 since inception of the programme in 1996. The potential created during 2009-10 is estimated to be 9.82 lakh hectares.

In order to expedite completion of ongoing projects under AIBP and thereby realizing their irrigation potential fully, monitoring of the projects have been stepped up and year wise potential target to be created under AIBP have been included in the Memorandum of Understanding to be provided by the State governments for the AIBP assisted projects. In case, there is delay in completion of the projects by the State governments, they have to request for extension of time with full justification for delay and remedial measures taken to remove bottlenecks in project implementation. Usually, they are also to provide undertaking to bear cost overrun beyond extended time limit in case of further delay in project completion.