

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4664
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2010
GRANT OF FUNDS UNDER AIBP
Bali Ram Dr. ;Rajbhar Shri Ramashankar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the guidelines laid down by the Government for grant of funds under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP);
- (b) whether less funds are being granted to some States, including Uttar Pradesh in comparison to other States;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

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 (AIBP) 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 benefitting 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.

Details guidelines are given on the website of the Ministry of Water Resources at web address wrmin.nic.in.

(b) to (d): The year-wise and State wise Central Assistance released under AIBP since inception of the AIBP in 1996-97 are given in Annex-I. Central Assistance under AIBP is released on the basis of AIBP release proposals received from State Governments in accordance with the AIBP guidelines. Some of the important points governing amount of grant to be released to State Governments are project specific budget provision made for works by the State Government in State's budget, work programme of the state

government for the project for the year, whether project is eligible for 25% or 90% grant or in-between them (if the project is partly benefitting area eligible for 90% grant), number of ongoing projects of the State under AIBP etc.