

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3662

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010

FUNDS FOR IRRIGATION PROJECTS

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

- (a) whether Saurashtra-Kutch and Sabarkantha regions in Gujarat are least irrigated regions in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the special schemes implemented to bring more areas under irrigation in this region; and
- (d) the funds demanded and given to Gujarat during each of the last three years for implementing centrally sponsored programmes?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) The net irrigated area in the country varies considerably from one State to the other. As per the information provided by Ministry of Agriculture, the average net irrigated area in the country during 2007-08 was about 44% of the net sown area with variations from about 3% to 98% from one State to the other. Government of Gujarat has informed that the coverage of cultivable land by irrigation in Saurashtra, Kutch and Sabarkantha regions are 11.86%, 4.32% and 16.98% respectively.

(c) & (d) The schemes for irrigation development are undertaken by the respective State Governments. However Government of India provides assistance under various programme / schemes namely "Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP)", "Repair Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies" and "Command Area Development & Water Management (CAD&WM)" for development and improvement in irrigation. The assistance provided to the Government of Gujarat under AIBP, RRR of Water Bodies and CAD&WM during the last three years i.e. from 2007-08 to 2009-10 were about Rs. 850.41 crores, Rs. 3.40 crores and Rs. 30.58 crores respectively.