

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:246

ANSWERED ON:18.08.2011

IRRIGATION PROJECTS

Bundela Shri Jeetendra Singh; Tirkey Shri Manohar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the execution status of the major and the medium irrigation projects undertaken in various States including West Bengal, M.P., U.P. and Maharashtra during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;
- (b) the total area of land to be irrigated on completion thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is losing sizeable amount due to the cost over-runs in delayed irrigation projects;
- (d) if so, the reasons for the delay in completion of these projects; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) TO (E) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 246 REGARDING IRRIGATION PROJECTS DUE FOR REPLY ON 18.8.2011

(a) & (b) As per the information provided by State Governments, 39 irrigation projects including 8 major projects, 10 medium projects and 21 projects for extension, renovation and modernization (ERM) have been taken up during XI Plan upto 2010. In addition, 553 irrigation projects are reported to have spilled over from X to XI Plan, out of which 82 projects are reported as completed. The ultimate irrigation potential to be created with completion of all ongoing projects is about 2,26,26,000 hectare. State-wise break-up of the numbers is given at Annex-I.

(c) & (d) Irrigation development being a state subject, planning, execution and operation & maintenance of irrigation projects are carried out by the state governments from their own resources and as per their own requirements and priority of works.

There are many cases of time over-run resulting in upward revision of cost. The revision of cost of the project is mainly due to escalation of prices and change in design parameters. Various reasons for time over-run include

- (i) fund constraints,
- (ii) Rehabilitation & Resettlement issues of PAPs,
- (iii) Land acquisition issues,
- (iv) Forest and environmental clearance,
- (v) inter-departmental clearances i.e. railways, roads and highways, power departments etc.

(e) The Union Ministry provides technical guidance to the State Governments as and when necessary. The Union Ministry has also been providing financial assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) since 1996-97 to State Governments to expedite completion of the projects which are under advanced stage of construction. The guidelines for such funding have been revised from time to time in order to enhance the scope of funding as well as to allow special consideration for the regions lagging behind in development, which presently include north-eastern states, hilly states, drought prone and tribal areas, KBK districts of Orissa, states with lower irrigation development as compared to national average and districts identified under PM package for agrarian distressed districts.