

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:544
ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009
KOSI CANAL PROJECT
Gandhi Smt. Maneka Sanjay

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the promised irrigation capacity and the actual irrigation provided by Kosi canal project during 2007-08;
- (b) the estimated cost of the project and total expenditure incurred till date;
- (c) the details of cost and time escalation alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

Answer

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

- (a) As per information available in Central Water Commission, the ultimate irrigation potential of the Western Kosi Canal system is 2.348 lakh hectare. The potential created through Western Kosi Canal project upto 2007-08 is 1.679 lakh ha. out of which 0.4 Th ha. was created during 2007-08.
- (b) The latest estimated cost of Western Kosi Canal Project is Rs.1307.21 crore (price level November 2007) against which an expenditure of Rs.1010.706 crore has been incurred upto March 2008.
- (c) The Western Kosi Canal project has been approved by Planning Commission in 1961 at an estimated cost of Rs. 13.49 crore. The latest estimated cost approved by Technical Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources in March, 2009 is Rs.1307.21 crore (price level November 2007). Irrigation is a state subject and the irrigation projects are planned, funded and implemented by the concerned State Governments from their own resources as per their own priorities. The main reasons for delay in completion of this project, as reported by the State Government, are land acquisition problems, restoration of Kamla siphon; etc.
- (d) Western Kosi Canal Project is likely to be completed during 2009-10 as per information received from the Government of Bihar.