

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:661

ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009

NATIONAL IRRIGATION PROJECTS

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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received proposals from various State Governments including Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat for declaration of certain irrigation/river projects in their States as National projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of such projects, State-wise;
- (c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon;
- (d) the norms/criteria for declaring such projects as National projects, project-wise;
- (e) the details of funds allocated to the National projects during the last three years and the current year, project-wise and year-wise; and
- (f) the time by which proposals received from the State Governments are likely to be cleared?

Answer

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

(a) As per guidelines for implementation of the scheme of the National Projects, the State Governments are required to submit the proposals for inclusion of new projects in the list of National Projects in prescribed format and as per procedure prescribed in the guidelines. Accordingly, proposals have been received from Government of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh.

(b)&(c).In accordance with above, proposal for Indira Sagar (Polavaram) project from Andhra Pradesh, Gosikhurd Project from Maharashtra and Saryu Nahar, Bansagar, Rajghat and Sharda Sahayak canal projects from Uttar Pradesh have been received for examination by the Central Water Commission, High Powered Steering Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources, Expenditure Finance Committee and Project Investment Board. On clearance of the examination process, clearance of Union Cabinet on case to case basis will be required for inclusion as national project.

(d). As per guidelines, the following are the criteria for declaring a project as National Project:

1. International projects where usage of water in India is required by a treaty or where planning and early completion of the project is necessary in the interest of the country.
2. Inter-State projects which are dragging on due to non-resolution of Inter- State issues relating to sharing of costs, rehabilitation, aspects of power production etc., including river interlinking projects.
3. Intra-State projects with additional potential of more than 2,00,000 hectare (ha) and with no dispute regarding sharing of water and where hydrology is established.

(e). The scheme of implementation of National Projects has come into effect from 26th February 2009 after issue of guidelines by the Ministry of Water Resources. For the year 2008-09 ceiling fixed by the Planning Commission for National Projects was of Rs.800 crore. The ceiling fixed for 2009-10 is also of Rs.800 crore.

(f) Gosikhurd Project of Maharashtra is already being funded under the scheme of National Projects. Inclusion of a project as a national project is made by the Union Cabinet on case to case basis. Inclusion of any specific project as national project depends on submission of the proposal by the concerned state government and approval thereto of the Union Cabinet after following due procedure prescribed in the guidelines.