

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:265

ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009

GRANT OF FUNDS UNDER AIBP

Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai;Singh Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has formulated any policy in regard to the grant of funds to the State Governments under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) for the implementation of lift irrigation and minor irrigation projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the salient features of the policy;
- (c) the funds allocated to various State Governments for lift irrigation and minor irrigation projects under AIBP during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various State Governments for grant of funds for such projects; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER 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 Lok Sabha Starred Question No.265 due for reply on 22.7.2009 regarding "Grant of funds under AIBP".

(a) to (e) As per guidelines of the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), major/medium irrigation projects including lift irrigation projects are eligible for assistance under AIBP. The eligibility criteria for inclusion of a project for assistance under AIBP are as follows:

For major/medium projects

1. The project has got investment clearance from the planning commission,
2. The project is in an advanced stage of construction and could be completed in next 4 financial years and
3. The project or component of the project proposed for AIBP is not receiving any other form of financial assistance.
4. A new ongoing major/medium project can be included for assistance under AIBP on completion of an ongoing project already assisted under AIBP on one to one basis
5. The following category of projects could be included in AIBP in relaxation of one to one criteria stated above:

(i) Projects benefiting drought prone/tribal areas,

(i) Projects in States having irrigation development below national average, and

(ii) Projects in the districts under Prime Minister's package for agrarian distress.

Major/medium irrigation projects including lift irrigation projects are eligible for 90% grant assistance under AIBP if they provide irrigation benefits to the drought prone/tribal areas, undivided Koraput Bolangir Kalahandi (KBK) districts of Orissa or to special category states. Major/medium irrigation projects of other areas are eligible for 25% grant assistance under AIBP.

Surface minor irrigation (MI) schemes benefiting Special Category States and KBK districts of Orissa are eligible for 90% central assistance under AIBP provided that:

1. Each individual scheme has ultimate irrigation potential of at least 20 hectares or Group of schemes (within a radius of 5 km) has total ultimate irrigation potential of 50 ha,
2. The proposed scheme has benefit-cost ratio greater than 1,
3. Development cost of the scheme per hectare is less than Rs.1.50 lakhs, and

1. Maximum time period within which they are to be completed is 2 years excluding the year of their inclusion under AIBP.

Surface MI schemes benefiting tribal or drought prone areas of non special category states are eligible for consideration for assistance under AIBP provided that

1. Each individual scheme has irrigation potential of more than 50 hectares,
2. The scheme is located in drought prone/tribal area (as decided in consultation with the Planning Commission),
3. Proposed scheme has benefit-cost ratio of greater than 1,
4. Development cost of the scheme per hectare is less than Rs.1.50 lakhs, and
5. Maximum time period within which they are to be completed is 2 years excluding the year of their inclusion under AIBP.

Surface MI schemes included in the programme are eligible for 90% grant assistance of the cost of the scheme.

The state wise details of grant released under AIBP to the major/medium lift irrigation projects during last three years and the current year is given in Annexure-I. The details of grant released for surface MI schemes for the similar period is given at Annexure II.

No proposal for release of central assistance under AIBP for the year 2009-10 has so far been received in respect of any major/medium lift irrigation project. The details of proposals received in respect of surface MI schemes are given at Annexure-III.