

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:233

ANSWERED ON:09.08.2012

WATER SECTOR REFORMS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether the Central Government has decided to incentivize States that fast track water sector reforms with liberalized funding criteria;
- (b) if so, the details thereof in this regard;
- (c) whether there is a huge gap between irrigation potential created and irrigation potential utilized;
- (d) if so, whether the Central Government has requested the States to plan reforms failing which the Central Government would finalize schemes on its own; and
- (e) if so, the facts in this regard?

**Answer**

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

- (a) & (b) The Planning Commission Steering Committee on Water Resources and Sanitation for the XII Five Year Plan has inter-alia recommended setting up of "Irrigation Management Fund" to incentivize States to undertake water sector reforms.
- (c), (d) & (e) Yes, Madam. About 15 million hectares has been assessed as the present gap between irrigation potential created and irrigation potential utilized. Central Government provides technical and financial assistance under "Command Area Development and Water Management" Programme to the State Governments to undertake command area development works at field levels to bridge the gap between irrigation potential created and irrigation potential utilized.