

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:375
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2012
REVAMPING OF IRRIGATION SYSTEM
Badal Harsimrat Kaur

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether various States including the State of Punjab have requested the Central Government to provide grants to them for rejuvenating and revamping their age-old irrigation system;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that rehabilitation of irrigation system may take a very long time as per existing rules & schemes;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to provide lumpsum grant to States to complete all their irrigation projects in one go; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Central Government provides Central Assistance (CA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Program (AIBP) to the Extension, Renovation and Modernizations (ERM) irrigation projects to the State Governments as per their requests and the eligibility of the projects. There are 41 projects already included in the programme, which includes 4 projects of Punjab. Further, 37 ERM projects of State Governments have been accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) since 2009, which includes 4 projects of Punjab.

(c) to (e) As per the present Guidelines of AIBP, the projects are required to be completed in a period of four years after their inclusion in the programme and State Governments are required to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Central Government. The Central Assistance is provided on year to year basis under AIBP to the Projects on the requests of the State Governments as per the eligibility criteria. Any lump sum grant for rejuvenating and revamping of age-old irrigation systems is not provided to the State Governments under this programme.