GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WATER RESOURCES LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:947 ANSWERED ON:16.08.2012 DEVELOPMENT OF SOURCES OF IRRIGATION Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has developed the sources of irrigation in the country during the last two decades and if so, the details thereof:
- (b) whether the Government has taken note that the canals constructed in the country for the development of irrigation facilities are not repaired and desilted in time and if so, the steps taken by the Government in this direction;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to utilize the technical know-how available in other countries of the world for the development of irrigation; and
- (d) the budget allocated to the States for the same and the State-wise details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes, Madam. Irrigation being a State subject, Planning and implementation of irrigation projects are undertaken by respective State Governments. However, Government of India provides financial assistance to States under State Sector schemes namely, "Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme" (AIBP) and "Command Area Development and Water Management" (CAD&WM) for early completion of the schemes. However, Irrigation Potential Created by these schemes is enclosed as annexures I-A & I-B.
- (b) The Irrigation Projects are maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their priorities. Often, the funds provided for repair and maintenance are inadequate. Government of India provides central assistance under AIBP for extension, renovation and modernization of irrigation projects as per the eligibility criteria under AIBP guidelines.
- (c) & (d) The Government has entered into various water sector reform and management projects through technical and financial assistance from international funding agencies. The Government had taken up implementation of computer models for river hydraulics, dam brake simulation, remote sensing and resources assessment technologies from developed countries like Denmark, USA, Canada, Brazil, UK, etc. The inputs have been channeled through eight numbers of water sector projects namely, (i) Madhya Pradesh Water Sector Restructuring Project, (ii) Maharashtra Water Sector Improvement Project, (iii) Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project, (v) Andhra Pradesh Water Sector Improvement Project, (vi) AP Irrigation and Livelihood Improvement Project, (vii) Rengali Irrigation sub project LBC-II & (viii) Orissa Integrated Irrigation, Agriculture and Water Management Investment Project (OIIAWMIP) (Tranche-II) are ongoing with External Assistance. Technical knowhow sharing is part of the project implementation. The details are at annexure-II.