

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:128

ANSWERED ON:22.11.2012

DELAY IN IRRIGATION PROJECTS

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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether more than 163 irrigation projects have been delayed abnormally depriving farmers of life saving water for crops, weakening food security and pushing them to the brink of pauperization;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, the reasons for delay in completion of major and medium irrigation projects; State-wise;
- (c) the number of projects that are not delayed due to non acquisition of land and rehabilitation of oustees, State-wise and the steps taken by the Government to complete these projects;
- (d) the details of irrigation potential created during the Eleventh Five Year Plan against the target fixed therefor; and
- (e) the details of the irrigation potential to be created during the Twelfth Five Year Plan Period, State-wise, particularly in Maharashtra?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) Out of the 287 major/medium irrigation projects reported ongoing at the end of XI Plan to the Working Group on Major Medium Irrigation & Command Area Development for XII Plan formulation, 163 major/medium projects may be considered delayed considering normal gestation period of completion for major projects as 10-15 years and that of medium projects as 5-8 years.

(b) The details are given in Annexure-I.

(c) Out of the above 287 projects, 73 projects (31 approved by Planning commission & 42 unapproved) are not delayed due to non-acquisition of land and rehabilitation of oustees. The details are given in Annexure II. The Union Government provides Central assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to the State Governments on their requests and as per the Guidelines of AIBP for completion of approved ongoing irrigation projects.

(d) & (e) During the XI Five Year Plan, creation of 5.0 mha additional irrigation potential is anticipated from Major & Medium projects out of targeted creation. During the XII Five Year Plan, the "Working Group on Major and Medium Irrigation and Command Area Development for the XII Five Year Plan" proposed an additional irrigation potential creation of about 7.9 mha through major and medium Irrigation projects (MMI) as well as restoration of about 2.2 mha of lost irrigation potential through Extension, Renovation and Modernization (ERM) of MMI projects. For Maharashtra State, the details furnished regarding additional irrigation potential and restoration of lost irrigation potential for XII Plan formulation are about 1.34 mha & 0.0005 mha respectively.