

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:62
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2012
SUBARNAREKHA BARRAGE PROJECT
Panda Shri Prabodh

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Subarnarekha Barrage Project was conceived long back with a view to provide irrigation facilities to a vast area of West and East Midnapore districts of West Bengal and also for creating jobs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has tried to find out the causes of enormous delay in the completion of the project resulting in sufferings of farmers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken to expedite the work and completion of the barrage?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) In order to utilize their respective share of the water resources of the Subarnarekha Basin, the three riparian States, i.e. Jharkhand (erstwhile Bihar), Orissa and West Bengal signed the Tripartite Agreement (TPA) on 07.08.1978. Construction of a barrage is proposed at Bhosraghat, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal to irrigate 114.198 Th.ha annually in Midnapur district through a left bank canal and its distribution system covering Cultural Command Area of 96.86 Th.ha, to utilize the water allocated under the TPA.

(c), (d) & (e) The project is under execution by the State Govt. from the State Plan funds. The main reasons for delay are

i) Delay in land acquisition under West Bengal Land Acquisition Act.

ii) Lack of forest clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forest.