

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:98

ANSWERED ON:22.11.2012

FUNDS FOR IRRIGATION

Khairi Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao; Meghe Shri Datta Raghobaji

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

- (a) the number of ongoing irrigation projects across the country especially in Maharashtra;
- (b) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government for those irrigation projects, State-wise;
- (c) whether most irrigation projects in Maharashtra are delayed;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Union Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) A total of 287 major/medium irrigation projects are reported as ongoing at the end of XI Plan to the Working Group on Major Medium Irrigation & Command Area Development for XII Plan formulation, out of which 119 projects pertain to Maharashtra State.

(b) The details of Central Assistance (CA) provided to the State Governments under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to the eligible projects as per the Guidelines is given at Annexure-I.

(c) to (e) 91 major/medium projects of Maharashtra 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.

As per information given by the State Governments the reasons for delay in completion of projects inter-alia include Paucity of funds, Interstate Problems, Delay in land acquisition, Delay in environment and forest clearance process, Naxal menace, Change in design, Rehabilitation and resettlement issues, Contractual Litigation, Local disputes, Inter-departmental clearances i.e. Railways, roads, highways, & Power departments, etc.

The Union Government provides Central Assistance (CA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to the approved projects satisfying AIBP Guidelines to States on demand.