

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4846
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2013
WATER USER ASSOCIATION IN WEST BENGAL
Noor Mausam

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Registered Water Users' Associations are yet to be formed in West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the measures undertaken by the Government to speed up the formation of these associations in West Bengal;
- (c) whether it is true that the irrigation potential utilised as documented in the official data and the irrigation potential utilised by the farmers differ substantially; and
- (d) if so, the reasons there for and the measures being taken by the Union Government to address this issue?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

- (a) Water Users' Associations (WUAs) are formed and registered in West Bengal.
- (b) WUAs are formed while taking up of construction of field channels under Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD&WM) programme. States, including West Bengal, are provided assistance for formation of WUAs. An amount of Rs.1000 per hectare is provided as a functional grant to each registered WUAs to be shared in the ratio of 450:450:100 among the Centre: State: Farmers.
- (c) Government of West Bengal has reported that about 42% of potential created under major & medium irrigation projects has been utilised during 2010-11 as per record.
- (d) Water being state subject, irrigation projects are planned and implemented by the respective State Governments through their own resources. However, central assistance is provided to supplement the resources under CAD&WM programme for utilisation of irrigation potential created. To reduce the gap of irrigation potential created and utilised, CAD&WM programme is to be implemented pari-passu with Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme during XII Plan.