

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2507  
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2009  
IRRIGATION SECTOR  
Rathod Shri Ramesh

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is making all out efforts to improve and strengthen the irrigation sector by gearing up to meet minor irrigation needs at a reduced rate of interest on refinance for all agencies, especially in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the comparative details in this regard for the last three years, State-wise?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) : Minor Irrigation has always been a thrust area for the National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD). Minor Irrigation is one of the key sectors for which refinance is extended to banks by NABARD. The overall refinance extended to banks for Minor Irrigation projects in the country by NABARD during the last three years is given as under:

S.No. Year Amount (Rs. crore)

1 2007-08 403.68

2 2008-09 545.85

3 2009-10 125.52

(As on 31  
Oct. 2009)

NABARD's rate of refinance for all purposes including Minor Irrigation, is given as under:

Agency for W.e.f.  
all regions 03 November 09

Commercial Banks 8% (North East-7.5%)

RRBs/SCBs/SCARDBs 7.5%

NABARD has implemented different Minor Irrigation Schemes of Government of India, viz., Rainwater Harvesting Scheme for ST/SC farmers, On-Farm Water Management Scheme for Crop production in 10 Eastern and North Eastern States, Million Shallow Tubewells Schemes in Bihar, etc. Presently, the Scheme on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water through Dugwells in 7 Hard Rock areas, viz., Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Tamil Nadu is being implemented.