

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2094
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2009
STUDY ON IRRIGATION POTENTIAL
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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Institute of Managements (IIMs) have submitted any report relating to gap between the irrigation potential created and utilized;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reaction of the Government to the findings of the studies conducted by IIMs; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to utilize maximum irrigation potential in the country ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES(SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) to (d) Realising the importance and the need for taking appropriate measures for optimally utilizing the created facilities for irrigation, the Ministry of Water Resources awarded studies to Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Kolkata and Lucknow for ascertaining the possible reasons for the gap between irrigation potential created and irrigation potential utilized and identifying the measures for ensuring optimal utilization. In the reports submitted by IIMs several reasons have been identified for the gap between irrigation potential created and irrigation potential utilized and some of the important reasons found to contribute considerably to the gap are as under.

- i. Lack of proper operation and maintenance
- ii. Incomplete distribution system
- iii. Non-completion of command area development
- iv. Changes from the initially designed cropping pattern
- v. Diversion of irrigable land for other purposes.

The report of the studies carried out by IIMs were circulated to all the State Governments and other stakeholders. With a view to further deliberate on the findings of the studies and recommendations made by IIMs and the suggestions received from the State Governments and other stakeholders, a workshop was organized by Ministry of Water Resources on 17th March 2009 at Delhi. The findings of the studies and the important points which emerged during the deliberations at the workshop have been forwarded to the State Governments for necessary actions.

Ministry of Water Resources provides necessary assistance to the States for undertaking command area development under the scheme "Command Area Development and Water Management". Ministry of Water Resources also provides assistance to States for extension, renovation and modernization (ERM) of major and medium irrigation projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) as per approved guidelines. Further, scheme for "Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies" has also been approved by Government of India under which assistance is provided to States for restoration of water bodies as per the approved guidelines.