

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4250
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2009
ALLOCATION OF FUND TO GANDHAK PROJECT
Singh Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has allocated rupees 300 crore to the State Government of Bihar for the completion of works under the Gandhak Project;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the works undertaken out of the fund on the projects;
- (c) the details of the pending works on the project including construction of bridges and canals;
- (d) the steps taken by the Union Government to expedite the completion of the works;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to get the pending works complete of bridges/culverts on the canals construction immediately; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (f) As per information provided by Planning Commission, the project 'Restoration of Eastern Gandak Canal' is included under the Special Plan for Bihar State. The Project was cleared by the Planing Commission and administratively approved by the State Government in 2003-04. The originally approved estimated cost of this project is Rs. 294 crore. The objective of this project is to restore the lost irrigation potential of 3.50 lakh hectare in West Champaran, East Champaran, Muzzafarpur and Vaishali districts of North Bihar. The canal system consists of 241 km of Tirhut main canal and 5540 km of distribution system. An amount of Rs. 51.98 crore has been released till 2005-06. Total expenditure upto 31.3.2008 (on preliminary activities) was 3.15 crore.

The State Government informed that the work for execution of Eastern Gandak Canal System was earlier allotted to Bihar State Construction Corporation but by the order of Hon'ble High Court, it was cancelled and therefore, the work was held up. The State Government has recently informed that in view of the judgement of the Hon'ble High Court, the contract for the work of this project has been signed on 6.8.2009 with Nagarjuna Construction Company Limited. The work is planned to be completed during the year 2011-12. Further, an amount of Rs. 48 crore has been recently released for this project.